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THE NEWSPAPER FOR CHATHAM, GILLINGHAM, ROCHESTER, STROOD, RAINHAM & DISTRICT

KOS

Issue No 109
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JOBS...
Helping you make the right choice
PAGES 41-43

MOTORING...
Posh Skoda a cut above the rest
PAGES 35-39

PROPERTY...
The HIP way to selling your home
PAGES 29-34

PLANS FOR DEMOLITION SPARK HERITAGE ROW

EXCLUSIVE

BY **SIMON ROBINSON**

COUNCIL chiefs are expected to snub calls to retain an historic building, choosing instead to press forward with plans to pull it down.

Medway Council bosses will meet tomorrow to discuss the fate of the Edwardian Aveling and Porter building, which overlooks Strood waterfront.

The Save Britain's Heritage pressure group, City of Rochester Society and local campaigners have all been involved in the fight to protect the former industrial warehouse from demolition.

A petition calling for the building to be spared has also been signed by more than 1,000 supporters.

But council moneymen have seemingly prioritised the Strood site's financial value over its historical one and recommended bringing the wrecking crews in.

A report prepared before tomorrow's meeting states that the annual cost of keeping the red-brick landmark stands at £139,000, on top of a one-off cost of £135,000 to "stabilise the building".

It also says the building would wipe £850,000 off the wider Civic Centre site's value to developers.

Save Britian's Heritage has slammed the decision.

Group secretary William Palin said: "It's a lazy decision; the council has probably already been approached by developers who want the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

WHAT'S ON & WATCH

yourkenttv.co.uk

BUSINESS: Chatham Historic Dockyard played host to Construction Expo 2009. **Search 'Expo'.**

ALSO INSIDE

BLOGGER ..... PAGE 12
COMPETITION ..... PAGE 13
LETTERS ..... PAGES 14-15
LEISURE ..... PAGES 16-27
SPORT ..... PAGES 46-47

ISSN 1753-119-5
41
9 771753 119004

E.ON IN KINGSNORTH U-TURN

The controversial coal-fired Kingsnorth proposals have been shelved for at least three years, it has been revealed.

Energy giant E.on made the startling announcement last week, citing a fall in demand for electricity in the recession as the main reason behind its decision. The news was well-received by anti-coal campaigners.

An Oxfam campaigns spokesman said: "It is highly doubtful E.on would dare come back in three years' time with plans that are outdated even today."

Others are more sceptical, with shadow energy and climate change secretary Greg Clark claiming the decision was "mired in bureaucracy".

FULL STORY ON PAGE 5

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WHAT'S ON & WATCH

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TOP TV CLIPS

1 Kent Chief Constable Michael Fuller answers our readers' questions about policing. **Search 'Chief' @ yourkenttv.co.uk**

2 What is the real problem threatening the structure of Deal Castle? **Search 'castle' @ yourkenttv.co.uk**

3 Graduates' art is livening up one of Ashford's oldest high-rise buildings. **Search 'art' @ yourkentv.co.uk**

SEE OUR SISTER PAPERS KENT ON SUNDAY AND THE SATURDAY EDITION FOR ALL THE WEEKEND'S COUNTY NEWS AND SPORT

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Quick guilty of 'pivotal role' in laundering drugs money

■ BY **SIMON ROBINSON**

A MILLIONAIRE money-launderer has been sentenced to seven-and-a-half years in jail after admitting his role in a drug-linked criminal gang.

Darren Quick, 43, previously of Oldfield Drive, Wouldham, pleaded guilty to three charges of possessing criminal property, transferring criminal money and laundering money.

He was sentenced at Maidstone Crown Court on Wednesday last week.

The court heard Quick played a "pivotal part" in the money laundering racket and had notched up personal profits in the region of £2 million, with available assets of about £350,000. Full investigations into his finances are ongoing.

Quick was arrested with fellow criminals Norrie Hyde, 40, from Sittingbourne, and Stephen Jarrett, 25, from Maidstone, in a pub car park in Maidstone in December, last year, after police witnessed suspicious activity.

Quick's grey Mondeo, Jarrett's blue Mondeo and Hyde's Mercedes Vito van were then searched.

Officers found a blue box containing £126,070 and a bag containing £66,960 in Quick's vehicle.

Jarrett was carrying £4,000 in cash and two mobile phones, while Hyde had £300.

The money seized from the defendants showed high traces of class A drugs, linking their crimes with drug dealing.

GUILTY PLEA: Wouldham man Darren Quick has been jailed for seven-and-a-half years

Subsequent searches of the men's addresses showed a wealthy lifestyle, with two BMW cars on Quick's driveway alone.

Judge Caddick QC said: "The proceeds of the sale of drugs – which include cocaine – mean only custodial sentences can be justified.

"Money laundering is serious in its effect if connected to the supply of class A drugs and is only second behind the supply and sale of drugs.

"Without your services, dealing drugs would be less fruitful."

Proceeds of Crime Act proceedings are under way.

To date, Kent Police have seized more than £320,000 in cash and assets in the region of £2 million.

yourmedway NEWS IN BRIEF

Sure Start centre is opened by the Dean

THE first parent and toddler Sure Start in Rochester is now open.

The centre, at St Margaret's at Troy Town Primary School, was opened by the Dean of Rochester, the Very Rev Adrian Newman, on Friday.

The towns now have 15 Sure Start centres. Medway Council's children's services boss Les Wicks said: "The new centre is an exciting and important part of the community.

"It means more families will have fantastic facilities and support. It's great to see another Sure Start opening in Medway. We will eventually have 22 in total."

Modern jive promised at Demelza's big night

A CHARITY Christmas dance to be held in Rochester in December will raise money for the Demelza children's hospice, near Sittingbourne.

The night will feature DJs and a modern jive display, with guests invited to join the dancers on stage.

Volunteer fundraiser Colin Obee, who is organising the party, said: "It promises to be a great night and hope it will be well supported."

The event will be at Dance Junction in Maidstone Road, on Saturday, December 12. Tickets are £14 per person. For more information, call Clare at Demelza on 01795 845204.

Farm and garden plan proposed by prison

PRISON bosses have submitted plans for a farm and garden at HMP Rochester to Medway Council.

The proposal would see a potting shed, tool store and four greenhouses built at the young offenders' institute, alongside a larger single building housing a classroom, office, staff restroom and changing facilities.

The submission reads: "With the current high number of inmates, there is a greater than ever need for useful, productive employment coupled with recognised accredited training in horticulture."

The proposal will be considered at a planning meeting tonight.

Kent Highway Services

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Toddler drowned after father kissed his lover

BY SIMON ROBINSON

A MARRIED man's quick kiss with his illicit lover led to the death of his two-year-old daughter, an inquest has heard.

Toddler Rebecca Hopper died after the double buggy carrying her and baby brother Lewis was blown into the ice-cold water off Folkestone seafront.

Dad Andrew Hopper, from Chatham, said he let go of the buggy during his embrace with BAe Systems co-worker Paula Anderson.

A statement from the dad-of-three was read out at the Ashford Magistrates Court hearing.

It read: "We kissed momentarily – I let go of the buggy and seconds into that kiss we heard a plop.

"It was like someone throwing a stone into the water. We broke from the kiss and thought, what was that?"

Recording a verdict of accidental death, coroner Rachel Redman described how the 38-year-old stopped to kiss his mistress.

She said: "They were aware subsequently of the sound of something entering the water which they, to their horror, discovered was the buggy.

"Rebecca tragically lost her life as the result of falling into the water."

The inquest heard how the couple dived into the cold swell on February 15 this year to rescue the little girl, who was strapped into her buggy next to her eight-month-old brother Lewis.

Miss Anderson, 38, described the dramatic rescue bid and told how she tried to fish out Rebecca while Mr Hopper tried to unstrap Lewis.

She said: "It was a horrible realisation that the buggy went over the edge.

"Andrew jumped in first and when I realised there was no way to get the buggy and children out, I jumped in as well.

"Andrew went for Lewis and I grabbed Becca.

"We struggled in the water. "It was very cold – it was very deep as well.

"I tried to keep her above the water as best I could."

Airlifted

Rebecca was airlifted to a specialist unit at the Royal London Hospital in Whitechapel, but she was declared dead two hours later.

Lewis was taken to the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford, where he made a full recovery.

Mother Sarah Hopper, 35, a beautician from Chatham, had not known about her husband's affair before that day.

A statement read out on her behalf after Thursday's hearing read: "Rebecca was my beautiful baby girl, and her brothers and I miss her every second of every day.

"While today's decision will help us take the next step in our recovery, the accident which took my little girl's life could so easily have been avoided.

"Rebecca will never be forgotten and I intend to make sure my two boys will always know how important she was in our lives."

The Crown Prosecution Service found no criminal offences to be prosecuted.

ACCIDENT: Rebecca Hopper died when her buggy rolled into the sea while her father kissed his lover

Men sought after attack on couple

A MAN and his girlfriend were left battered and bruised after a late-night assault.

Police are hunting two men in connection with the attack and have released these pictures captured by CCTV cameras.

The assault is alleged to have taken place in Delce Road, in Rochester, at about 1.30am on Monday, August 31.

Cameras watched as the men, both in their 20s, got into a heated argument with the couple.

A police spokesman said: "Anyone with information about this incident is asked to call police on 01634 792415 or Kent CrimeStoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111."

Demolition 'at expense of heritage'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

entire site to build on and that's all they're thinking about.

"The council has a responsibility to behave well with the resources they have, but they also have the responsibility to think about the long-term effects of their decisions.

"We think by demolishing the A&P building they are showing an appalling lack of care for the building, one of relatively few buildings of architectural merit in Strood."

Cllr Stephen Hubbard added: "The council is money-driven, with little care to heritage. To fund the cost of the council's move to the Gun Wharf headquarters the Tory leadership intends to maximise capital receipts from the sale of Strood's Civic Centre.

"This will only be achieved by demolishing all the buildings on the site – at the expense of Strood's industrial heritage."

The building was built in 1906 as the headquarters of Aveling and Porter, manufacturers of agricultural engines.

The firm constructed its first steam engine in 1861 and went on to become the world's leading producer of steam rollers.

School to be closed, despite pleas from scrutiny committee

EDUCATION bosses have decided to close St John's Primary School, despite strong opposition from staff, parents and pupils.

Medway Council's cabinet met last week and once again agreed to press ahead with plans to shut the Chatham primary school.

Their decision came two weeks after the council's own schools scrutiny committee urged them to reconsider their original proposal.

The school looks certain to close in August next year, along with Ridge Meadow School.

Opposition councillors, who were hoping for an 11th hour reprieve – such as was given to St Peter's School – were left seething at the outcome.

Liberal Democrat councillor Cathy Sutton said: "This is a disgrace. Despite thousands of people telling them not to, the Tories have ignored all local wishes.

"Clearly the Tories have not changed. Whenever they win elections they want to cut services. The leopard has not changed its spots."

Labour's children's services boss Bill Esterson added: "Exactly the same arguments apply to St John's as to St Peter's, the school that has been saved from closure, so how can they come to a different decision?

"I know everyone at the school will be devastated, but we will continue to work with them and explore every option for St John's."

Medway Council's children's services boss Les Wicks defended the decision, saying: "Making these changes to our schools is a sensitive matter and all the available information has been carefully considered in reaching a decision to close St John's Infant School.

"Medway has to address unfilled places in its schools and ensure that all children continue to receive the best educational opportunities and the best use of resources, and this is why the decision has been made.

"Where parents and children are affected by this decision, full support will be given by my officers."

yourmedway
NEWS IN BRIEF

Police plans build up case for block of flats

POLICE chiefs have submitted plans to replace Rainham police station with a block of flats.

The three-storey block would be made up of 20 two-bedroom apartments and two one-bedroom apartments.

The Kent Police Association submission describes the building as "of a contemporary design".

The planning request will be heard by Medway Council bosses tonight.

Estuary is chosen nesting spot for protected bird

A PROTECTED bird is thriving in the Medway Estuary, RSPB bosses have revealed.

More than 200 breeding pairs of Mediterranean gulls have taken to the area – equating to a third of the entire UK breeding population. The greatest concentrations were found on the RSPB reserve at Nor Marsh.

RSPB wardens Gordon Allison said: "It is very exciting to have a breeding population of this special bird right on our doorstep."

Make it your business to go to two Link sessions

FREE workshops giving small business owners the chance to find out about ways to increase their sales and profits will take place next week.

Two Business Link sessions will be held at the Holiday Inn, Rochester, on Friday, October 23, starting at 11.30am and 4.30pm.

Call Business Link on 01732 878555 or book directly online at www.boostyoursalesandprofits.co.uk

Listen up, it's a charity quiz night in Rainham

A DEAF and hard-of-hearing charity is holding its annual quiz evening next month.

The quiz takes place at Rainham School for Girls on Friday, November 13, and is open to teams of up to six people. Entry costs £6 per person and includes a ploughman's supper. Proceeds will go to Hi Kent, which provides help and assistance to the deaf and hard-of-hearing. To book a table call 01622 691151 or email L.Clayton@hikent.org.uk

New mum's death is fault of hospital

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

A NEW mum died as a result of "gross failures" by Medway Maritime Hospital staff, a coroner has ruled.

Claire Joel, of Galleon Way, Upnor, passed away at the hospital in October of last year, five days after giving birth to a daughter.

She was 28 years old.

An inquest into Mrs Joel's death was held at County Hall, Maidstone, last Wednesday.

During the hearing it was revealed that Mrs Joel's delivery was blighted by a number of hospital blunders.

A thorough investigation into Mrs Joel's treatment showed there was an unacceptable delay in inducing labour, failures to administer antibiotics before and after an emergency Caesarean Section was carried out and a failure to put an appropriate care plan and adequate observations into place.

Mrs Joel subsequently passed away from sepsis due to an infection of the genital tract.

Coroner Roger Sykes said: "These amounted to gross failures to provide the basic treatment and care that her medical condition required and she died from natural causes contributed to by neglect."

Husband Mark has launched a clinical negligence claim against Medway NHS Trust.

A statement released by Mr Joel after the inquest read: "Today has been an extremely difficult day for my family and I.

"The inquest and the documentation obtained by the coroner has provided some clarification of the reasons behind Claire's death.

"However, nothing will bring her back and our daughter will never experience the immense love and affection that Claire felt for her.

"I can only hope that the hospital has learnt from the circumstances surrounding Claire's death and that no other new family will have to go through what my family and I are currently going through.

"I have instructed JMW Solicitors to pursue a clinical negligence claim on behalf of my daughter and myself.

"As this is on-going I am unable to comment further on this."

A spokesman for Medway NHS Foundation Trust said: "The Trust's sincerest sympathies remain with Mrs Joel's family.

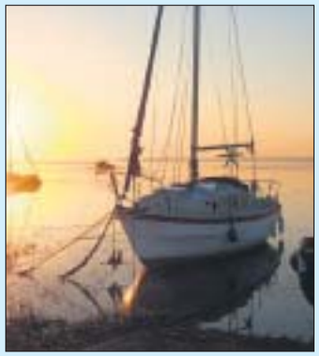
"The Trust is committed to the highest standards of care but it is apparent that the care received by Mrs Joel fell below the standards that the Trust would wish to provide, and for which the Trust apologises unreservedly.

"Thorough investigations into Mrs Joel's care have taken place by both the Trust and by invited external investigators.

"As a result, the Trust has made changes to practices and procedures, which are being carefully monitored, to minimise the risk of this happening again."

Picture PHIL HOUGHTON

INQUEST: An inquest into the sad death of mother, Claire Joel, was held at County Hall, Maidstone, last Wednesday



SNAP HAPPY: Sunset on the River Medway

12 months of Medway views

A CALENDAR featuring the work of talented amateur photographers has gone on sale.

The 12-month Medway 2010 calendar includes a range of picturesque photos taken at various spots across the towns.

The 13 pictures – one for each month and the front cover – were chosen from hundreds of entries by Medway Council bosses.

Winning photos include an atmospheric sunset view across the Medway to the Kingsnorth Jetty, a haunting black and white shot of Rochester Castle, an alternative view of the M2 road bridge, the cathedral and the Sweeps festival, in Rochester.

Finance boss Alan Jarrett said: "We challenged people to capture images that show what makes Medway special and we were very impressed by the high quality and imagination of the photographs submitted.

"This calendar doesn't just show that Medway has numerous fascinating places that are well worth a visit, it helps highlight the fact that there are many talented people here who are only too keen to display the pride they have in where they live."

The calendar is on sale from the Visitor Information Centre in Rochester High Street from Monday. It costs £4.99.

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DELAY: The German company E.on announced on Thursday that a fall in the demand for electricity in the recession had prompted its decision to delay the proposed build at Kingsnorth Power Station (above) for up to three years

Unclear why E.on has switched off power plant plans

■ BY **STEVE KNIGHT**

ENERGY giant E.on has been accused of being economical with the truth over its shelving of plans for a new coal-fired power station at Kingsnorth.

The German company announced on Thursday that a fall in the demand for electricity in the recession had prompted its decision to delay the proposed build for up to three years.

This revelation came just hours after the firm hinted that the time it was taking the Government to decide on their application was likely to hamper its plans anyway.

E.on's official reason appeared all the more unlikely the following day when the energy regulator Ofgem announced that electricity bills could rise by 60 per cent during the next seven years.

Bureaucracy

Shadow energy and climate change secretary Greg Clark – who is also MP for Tunbridge Wells – said he thought the company had changed tact so as to appear more diplomatic.

He said: "The current economic climate is clearly not the most important factor here. The real reason is pretty clear – E.on does not have confidence in the current UK energy policy, and that's exactly what I've been saying for a long time.

"The whole thing is mired in bureaucracy and no-one knows where they stand. I think there's always a bit of diplomacy involved when it comes to big corporations nowadays, but if you asked them privately I'm sure they would agree."

Kingsnorth has been in the running to receive Government funding to develop a carbon capture and storage (CCS) demonstration plant, but a decision on which power station will win the competition has yet to be made.

Just hours before announcing it was putting plans for a new Kingsnorth on hold, an E.on spokesman said: "We are committed to participating in the Government's competition and believe the development of Kingsnorth as part of a 'Thames cluster' of power stations remains an excellent opportunity for the South East to lead in a low-carbon future."

E.on has received almost constant criticism from environmentalists since it first applied for permission to build the new Kingsnorth in December 2006.

A number of demonstrations have taken place at the site as a result, the most notable of which occurred in August last year when hundreds of protestors clashed with police at the ten-day Climate Camp.

Groups including Kingsnorth Climate Action Medway, Greenpeace and the World Development Movement were among those celebrating E.on's latest announcement.

While some admitted the battle had not quite been won, others were far more confident that it had.

Oxfam's campaigns director Thomas Schultz-Jagow said: "We welcome E.on's announcement, which ultimately means the end of new coal at Kingsnorth.

"It is highly doubtful E.on would dare come back in three years' time with plans that are out-dated even today."

• ***For more reaction to E.on's announcement, turn to page 14.***

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Twitter the latest news

TWEETING Twitter users are needed to help Yourmedway continue to bring you the most important breaking stories.

We will be using the fast-growing communication device to post the latest stories, interviews and announcements. And Yourmedway is calling on its thousands of readers to keep us up-to-date on what's going on around the towns throughout the day.

News editor Simon Robinson said: "We'll be posting regular Twitter updates on the site, making users aware of all the breaking news.

"We want to hear from Yourmedway readers; what do you want to read, what have we missed, what are your concerns and what's going on in your street?

"This is your chance to have your say and influence what's covered in Yourmedway."

Follow us on www.twitter.com/yourmedway.

Have you seen this man?

POLICE have released an e-fit of a man accused of grabbing a teenage girl's arm four months ago.

The 15-year-old from Sittingbourne was walking towards Rochester railway station between 8pm and 8.30pm on Friday, June 5, when she was approached by her alleged attacker.

She managed to escape his grip before running away.

WANTED: E-fit of man wanted in connection with suspected attack

The man is described as being between 55 and 60, and 5ft 5in. At the time he was wearing dark clothing and white shoes.

Anyone with information should call Kent Police on 01634 792527 or Kent CrimeStoppers, in confidence, on 0800 555111.

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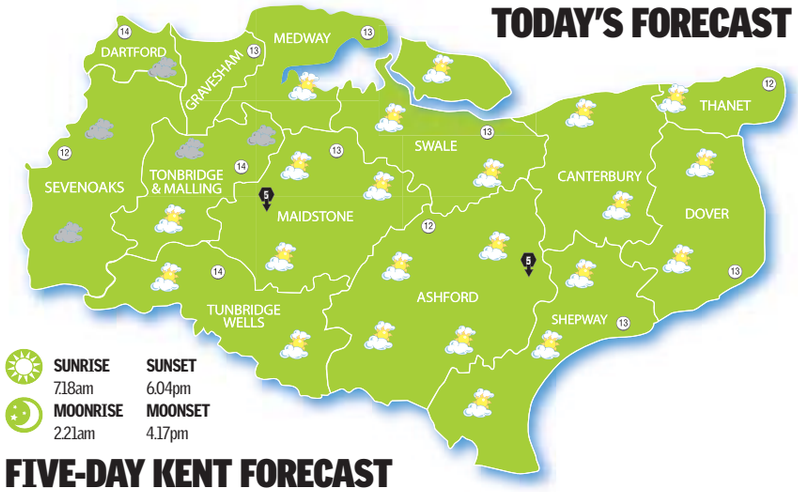
TODAY'S FORECAST



SUNRISE 7.18am **SUNSET** 6.04pm
MOONRISE 2.21am **MOONSET** 4.17pm

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	15°C	14°C	14°C	14°C	13°C	Gravesend	16°C	15°C	15°C	15°C	15°C
Canterbury	14°C	13°C	13°C	14°C	13°C	Maidstone	16°C	14°C	14°C	14°C	14°C
Chatham	15°C	14°C	14°C	13°C	14°C	Ramsgate	14°C	13°C	13°C	14°C	13°C
Dartford	16°C	15°C	15°C	15°C	15°C	Rochester	15°C	14°C	14°C	13°C	14°C
Dover	14°C	13°C	13°C	13°C	13°C	Sevenoaks	14°C	13°C	13°C	13°C	12°C
Faversham	15°C	14°C	14°C	13°C	14°C	Sittingbourne	15°C	14°C	14°C	13°C	14°C
Folkestone	14°C	13°C	13°C	13°C	13°C	Tonbridge	16°C	14°C	14°C	14°C	12°C
Gillingham	15°C	14°C	14°C	13°C	14°C	Tun Wells	16°C	14°C	14°C	14°C	12°C

WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	12:40pm	6.1m
	Sunday	1:22pm	6.3m
Dover	Saturday	11:02am	6.8m
	Sunday	11:40am	6.9m
Dungeness	Saturday	11:01am	7.8m
	Sunday	11:43am	8.0m
Ramsgate	Saturday	11:32am	5.2m
	Sunday	12:10pm	5.3m
Sheerness	Saturday	12:29pm	5.8m
	Sunday	1:12pm	5.9m
Whitstable	Saturday	12:36pm	5.5m
	Sunday	1:20pm	5.5m

AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	15°C	Madrid	25°C
Athens	24°C	New York	16°C
Barcelona	23°C	Paris	15°C
Beijing	20°C	Rome	23°C
Bombay	35°C	Sydney	22°C
Cape Town	18°C	Tenerife	26°C
Cardiff	13°C	Tokyo	21°C
Gibraltar	22°C	Vancouver	11°C
Hong Kong	28°C	Warsaw	11°C
Las Palmas	28°C	Wellington	15°C

Airways to heaven for inventive brothers

HOT AIR: Drying device inventors David and Jack Elliot

INVENTOR brothers David and Jack Elliot have hit the big time with their multi-use drying gizmo.

The Direct Air Drying (DAD) system has already helped thousands of flood victims return to their homes faster than ever before.

And now they hope their specially crafted inflatable mattress device, which distributes air through hundreds of tiny holes along its surface, will be used in other ways.

David, from Strood, said the patented DAD system could also be used in the construction industry by reducing screed and plaster drying times.

He said: "Our product can dry a 75mm screed in a week when it normally takes six weeks. It can also be used on walls to dry plaster, in fact anywhere that needs drying out.

"This is a massive change and can have a major impact on building schedules."

The brothers – who are backed by wind-up radio inventor Trevor Baylis – hope the system will have much wider uses, from grain drying and sports pitches to keeping storage areas dry or helping maintain the temperature of medical field hospitals.

Kent Police

For actions on priorities where you live visit: **www.kent.police.uk/yousaidwedid**
To report non-urgent crime and anti-social behaviour, call **01622 690690**
In an emergency, dial **999**. For the deaf and speech impaired, text 'Police' to **60066**

MEDWAY COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

yourlocalinterview

QUESTION & ANSWER

PAUL HENDY

Q&A

The showbiz veteran is looking to help talented youngsters in Kent make it in the world of stage, screen and TV with his Star Performers Academy. He tells reporter **Nick Ames** about his life and plans for the future

Q Can you tell us about your showbiz career?

A I started off as a good old-fashioned blue-coat-type entertainer on holiday parks in Clacton-on Sea and Newquay. It was great experience and proved to be a wonderful way of learning about the entertainment industry. I would host the 'Glamorous Granny' and 'Knobbly Knees' competitions (very often the same person would win both!).

When I was 24 I had my first break into television hosting a bizarre children's show called Raise the Roof on BSB – an obscure channel which was the fore-runner to Sky. It proved to be a great way of learning how to be yourself in front of the camera.

This led to the Disney Club on ITV and from there, I hosted shows like the BAFTA-nominated Dear Mr Barker, the cult-classic Stash the Cash ('cult' meaning it was rubbish but students liked it!), Don't Try This at Home with Davina McCall and Wheel of Fortune. I eventually moved out of TV and started my own theatrical production company with my wife, Emily Wood.

Q I understand you are looking for talented youngsters across Kent – what opportunities exist for them?

A Emily and I wanted to give the young people of Kent the chance to learn more about the entertainment industry so we have launched Star Performers Academy. The idea is that talented youngsters will be taught by top professionals – they will learn singing, dancing and drama but we will also have specialist workshops in things like TV presenting, stage combat, street dancing etc.

We are particularly interested in people who want to make a career in entertainment so the aim is to guide them in that direction and teach them things like audition technique. It's a very exciting project and I don't think there's anything else like this in the area.

I have always known that Kent has some incredibly talented youngsters so I'm really excited to be doing something like this in the county.

Q What sort of people are you wanting to get in touch with?

A Youngsters who feel they have a talent and passion for singing, dancing or acting. We would aim to improve their skills in all three areas. They don't have to have experience but they will have to audition for a place as we do want to keep the standards high.

Q What opportunities are out there for them?

A There are opportunities out there but it certainly helps if you have had the right training. I think everybody knows that showbusiness is a tough industry. I think you need four things to be successful… talent, drive, ambition and luck.

The fifth thing (which can help the first four) is top quality training and that's what we hope to provide at Star Performers Academy.

Q You've written some books which parody the celebrity lifestyle – how were they received?

A The books have been received remarkably well, especially by people who work in showbusiness. They are fictional but based, very loosely, on my experiences so there might be some people who you might recognise. I think part of the fun is trying to guess who the characters are based on.

I'd love to write a third novel but with this year's panto (Peter Pan at The Marlowe arena), Star Performers Academy and two children it might have to be on the back burner for a while!

Q How do you find living in Kent?

A I absolutely love living in Kent, especially having lived in London for ten years. We have stunning countryside here, the people are very friendly and an awful lot of them are very passionate about the arts.

Q How do you relax?

A I love spending time with my two children: Freddie who is four and has just started school and Poppy who is six weeks old. To be honest, she's not that relaxing at the moment – there's not a lot of sleep going on but she is beautiful! Freddie has a great personality and is always dressing up and pretending to be other characters – he's a real little actor (I wonder where he gets that from!)

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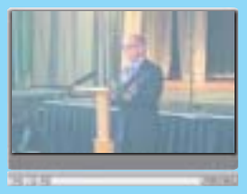
Chief Constable answers questions in Safer Kent campaign. Search 'Safer'


Loyd Grossman's speech at launch of Strood Academy. Search 'Academy'

Launch of Tunbridge Wells on Saturday and Sunday. Search 'Wells'

Exhibitors showcase their skills at Construction Expo 2009. Search 'Expo'

EDITOR'S CHOICE

You can view all these videos and others from around the county with the click of a mouse at...

yourkenttv.co.uk

CAUGHT OUT: Recreational catches made on British beaches will count as part of the UK's EU fishing quota in future

Frustrated sea anglers netted by EU red tape

FISHERMEN have admitted defeat in their battle against planned EU legislation they claim could damage the recreational sea-angling industry.

BY **STEVE KNIGHT**

Kent's boat charter companies, tackle shops and other businesses fear financial ruin if they are forced to abide by the same strict quotas proposed for commercial fishermen.

The European Anglers Alliance (EAA) – which includes the UK-based Angling Trust – has spent months attempting to convince the European Commission to delete Article 47 of the Common Fisheries Policy, but its appeals have fallen on deaf ears.

Should the EU's Council of Ministers accept the policy later this year without acknowledging the alliance's concerns, then sea anglers throughout Europe may find themselves having to count and record everything they catch.

Those figures would then become part of the UK's fishing quota allowance.

Angling Trust campaigner Leon Roskilly, from Rainham, said: "There are people in some countries who use large nets to catch fish, and we had hoped to get the commission to recognise the difference between that and recreational angling and bring in a more appropriate regulation.

"Unfortunately, we've failed. It's very frustrating because there are no great problems that need to be addressed with recreational sea angling. We've just been scooped up in it all. The commission doesn't have the information or the data down to the level it needs to understand the vast differences in the fishing sectors."

Due to its failure to get Article 47 amended, the EAA has lodged an official objection and called for the Council of Ministers to delete it entirely.

Among the reasons given are controlling recreational fisheries is not justified by any factual evidence, and that member states are not able to control tens of thousands of boats and millions of anglers. A decision could be made as early as next month, with the new policy introduced on January 1.

Showbiz pals happy to club together

CELEBRITIES lit up the Chart Hills Golf Club as they offered their support to a charity golf day. The stars all gave up their time to enjoy a round of golf in aid of Kent comic Dave Lee's Happy Holidays.

The charity helps hundreds of sick, disabled and disadvantaged children, giving them and their families much-needed breaks.

Among the big names taking part were Spandau Ballet singer Tony Hadley; former England fast bowler Dean Headley; one-time England and Liverpool goalkeeping legend Ray Clemence; Dover Athletic boss Andy Hessenthaler; ex-boxing champion Barry McGuigan and comics Bobby Davro, Brian Conley and Bradley Walsh.

They joined 30 teams taking part. KOS Media, publisher of this newspaper, was the media partner for the event.

The evening's entertainment included performances from 1960s group The Searchers and folk singer Richard Digance. But it was former cricketer Phil Defreitas who emerged triumphant on the course.

The all-rounder claimed the longest drive, which "landed in Belgium", according to Mr Lee. He added: "The day was sensational. Everyone enjoyed it and wants to come back next year, with even more teams.

"There were lots of spectators and Tony Hadley and I attracted the most attention. Ladies were swooning over us," quipped the comic, who is looking forward to "the most fun you can have with your clothes on" as his role as the fairy godmother for the Marlowe's Christmas panto, Peter Pan, in Canterbury.

"We're in the final stages of receiving donations from the golf and I want to thank everyone who took part and the sponsors – including KOS Media – for helping our cause which has helped so many children," Mr Lee added.

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POWERED BY KOS MEDIA

How officer helped young armed robber go straight

As part of our behind-the-scenes look at the work of Kent Police, Jane Barlow speaks with former violent criminal Bobby Cummines, who has turned his life around. He talks about the positive work of our police force and how his own life has changed...

HAVING spent his teenage years in a young offenders' institution and 13 years in an adult prison you might not expect Bobby Cummines to be an advocate of the police.

He was the youngest person in Britain to be convicted for possession of a sawn-off shotgun, he was locked up for a series of armed robberies and at one point was described by the national media as the country's most dangerous prisoner after taking a governor hostage.

But a supporter of the police he is, after a conversation with a police officer resulted in him turning his life around.

Today, Bobby runs a charity for reformed offenders in Snodland and is a House of Commons advisor on crime and prisons. He has been invited to a Buckingham Palace garden party and was at 10 Downing Street with the Open University, with whom he studied during his sentence, as it celebrated its 40th anniversary.

Bobby said: "The officer who arrested me for the robberies said that I had a good brain and why didn't I use it for business instead of crime. The judge had said a similar thing and I thought about it through my sentence.

"I was in solitary confinement a lot of the time, so I read."

Bobby studied psychology, sociology, economics, politics and housing, and went on to get a degree. He got a job with a housing association and became a volunteer with the probation service. He married a prison librarian and a few years later had a daughter.

ROLE MODEL: Former armed robber Bobby Cummines has praise for police

But getting his first job, with a criminal record in tow, was not easy – which is why he helped set up the charity Unlock.

He also teams up with Kent Police and youth workers to run sessions for youngsters to urge them not to get involved with crime.

Kent Police officer PC Paul Richardson, a safer school partnership co-ordinator in Maidstone, said: "Bobby has helped with a course for children who were thought likely to become involved in crime. He talks about the damage a criminal record can have later in life. Preventing youngsters getting involved in trouble is beneficial to the whole community."

Bobby said: "I heard about police in Kent organising discos to get children off the streets and I thought if they can do something, so can I. But I didn't know anything about kids."

However, it didn't take long for him to get the hang of it and he is thrilled when teachers tell him that months after one of his talks pupils are still quoting his catch phrases – 'mugs take drugs' and 'fools carry tools'.

Bobby also has regular involvement with his two community police officers in Snodland.

He said: "They come to me and say they have a kid who is going off the rails and have I got any ideas. The officers are part of the community. They get involved and they care. They find problems and they find solutions.

"Here in Kent we have a police force we can be proud of. But people need to remember that crime isn't a police problem, or a prison problem – it is a problem for society and to reduce it we need to work together."

Bobby is full of praise for Kent Police.

He said: "They are pro-active in preventing crime. They get involved before there is a problem, rather than picking up the pieces.

"I'm all for their neighbourhood policing. Community officers show people that they are human and approachable. When people see officers out and about on the streets it takes away the fear of crime."

To find out more about Unlock phone 01634 247350.

A SAFER KENT – POLICE AND THE COMMUNITY WORKING TOGETHER

As part of our A Safer Kent Campaign we offered readers the chance to put their questions to Chief Constable Michael Fuller. Here is the second set of answers. See all the questions and answers in full at www.kentnews.co.uk.

How come Kent Police cannot afford its own helicopter and we always have to use the Essex force's one?

James Parnell, Westgate-on-Sea.

In the past we have relied on a policy of assistance from other forces when we have needed to use a helicopter, but increasing costs and reduced availability meant we had to examine a new way of providing air support.

To run our own service would cost at least £8 million to set up, and take two years before it was fully implemented. Working with Essex meant we could do this immediately and without having to put in a big initial investment. It has meant the use of the helicopter in Kent has increased by 700 per cent compared to the previous arrangement.

How many murders in the last ten years in Kent remain unsolved?

ofifrin@aol.com

More than 93 per cent of murders that occurred in Kent in the past ten years have been solved. There are currently ten where, so far, no one has been successfully prosecuted.

What is Kent Police's child protection policy and what lessons have Kent Police learned as a result of the Baby P case?

Celia Wilkinson, Tunbridge Wells

The key objective of our child protection policy is to safeguard children and investigate child abuse and neglect.

Lord Laming's report in 2003 into the tragic death of Victoria Climbie resulted in a number of significant changes in the way in which child abuse is managed. In April 2004 Kent Police child abuse investigation units were re-structured, staffing levels significantly increased and a substantial amount of money was invested. Last year Kent Police Authority added £750,000 to provide an increased number of officers to manage and monitor offenders.

Child abuse investigation units within Kent Police are dedicated solely to the role of investigating child abuse, and are run by highly trained investigators who are specialists in the field of identifying offences against children. The force has established a public protection unit, which is responsible for protecting vulnerable people. We also work closely with key partners and other agencies. In many cases it is only when information from a range of sources is put together that risk to children can be identified and assessed.

Lord Laming's latest report, following the death of Baby Peter, outlines 58 recommendations across all statutory agencies – 13 relate to the police service. In Kent we are in a strong position to take forward all the recommendations made. This is identified as a key priority.

yourmedwayschools

BREAK TIME

HANDS-ON: Abbie Baker from Chatham gets to grips with a drink and drugs awareness display

Students settle in to new campus site

STUDENTS were given the chance to settle in to MidKent College's new campus during the annual freshers' fair.

The one-day event – the first at the multi-million pound Gillingham site – gave pupils the chance to try food, collect promotional vouchers and add goals for the year to the college's pledge wall.

They could also seek financial, health and careers advice and get used to their new campus surroundings.

Student services head Karen Baker said: "It's been great to see the students getting involved in the college.

"The start of term can be a bit daunting for learners – and this year, not only have our first year students got to get used to the new campus, but those students who were with us last year at Horsted in Chatham and City Way in Rochester have got to do this too.

"It's been brilliant to see them all settling in so quickly."

Young hockey players mark Mini Youth Games hat-trick

BY **SIMON ROBINSON**

HEMPSTEAD Junior School held on to their title of Medway hockey champs at the opening event in the Mini Youth Games.

The school's talented players won all eight of their matches at the hockey competition, pipping fellow undefeated team Featherby Junior Schools to the title on goal difference.

The result gave Hempstead a hat-trick of hockey wins – having won the event in each of the last three years.

Sherwin Knight Junior School, Strood, picked up third place while Warren Wood Primary School, Rochester, finished fourth at the Holcombe Hockey Club event.

Medway Council's sports development officer John Hatchett said: "This was a great event to kick off the 2009/10 season and the event had a good, friendly atmosphere throughout the day.

"This is the eighth time in the 11 years of the Mini Youth Games hockey event that Hempstead have taken the winners' trophy, which is an impressive record."

More than 200 youngsters from 21 Medway primary schools took part in the hockey stage. In the next round of the Mini Youth Games the teams play tag rugby on Tuesday, October 20.

The third event is badminton, followed by swimming in January of next year.

The Mini Youth Games is a multi-sport programme for all Medway primary schools. It forms part of the Medway Games series organised by Medway Council's sports development team with the support of Medway's two school sports partnerships, national governing bodies, local sports clubs and leisure facilities.

Prizes are awarded at each event and points gained towards the overall title.

If you are interested in joining a hockey club or finding out more about Mini Youth Games, visit the sports development pages at www.medway.gov.uk/london2012.

For details of the Mini Youth Games programme call John Hatchett on 01634 338763.

CHAMPIONS: Pupils from Hempstead Junior School have won the hockey competition three years in a row

EVENTS

- Tag Rubgy – Tuesday, October 20 at Medway Rugby Club
- Badminton – Thursday, November 26 at Medway Park or the Stirling Centre
- Swimming and biathlon – Thursday, January 28 at Medway Park
- Table tennis – Wednesday, March 24 – Howard Table Tennis centre
- Netball – Thursday, April 22 – Rainham Girls' School
- Kwik Cricket – Thursday, May 27 – High Halstow Cricket Club
- Mini World Cup – Friday, June 10 – Medway Park

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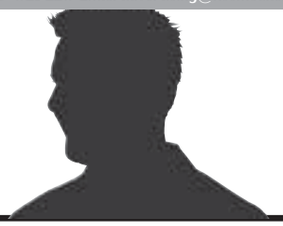
yourmedwayblogger

This week's blogger wonders why a man from Trinidad dislikes England's 2018 World Cup bid .....



FIFA Vice President fails to score points with English fans

ONE of football's major annoyances is at it again.

No he's not a diver, a moaning manager and I'm pretty sure he doesn't have a WAG who appears in the tabloid press every day.

And it's not Sven.

Step forward Jack Warner of Trinidad – FIFA Vice President and head of the American CONCACAF branch of the world game.

And guess what – he's having a go at England's bid for the 2018 World Cup.

Why not wreck the dreams of millions of sports fans in the UK Jack – and those players and supporters who would love to experience some of the venues they dreamt about when getting a passion for the game such as Anfield, Old Trafford and Wembley.

"Nobody in Europe likes England" he said. "England is an irritant," he added.

"England invented the sport but has never made any impact on world football."

Jack – 1966 mean anything to you?

A couple of years ago which two teams played for the biggest prize in club football? Oh yes, Manchester United and Chelsea. Where do you think they come from?

Accusing the bid leadership of being "lightweight" and unknown in international football circles, he said England was failing to make the most of its advantages and falling behind rival bids from Spain and Portugal and Russia.

Luckily he's on hand with advice: "I would have been more aggressive in the market place. If I had the Premier League, Beckham and the Queen, there would have been many things I could have done for the people who are voting.

"I would have made them next-door neighbours to make them the first name on people's lips. You have no divine right to anything – you have to earn it."

And the trouble is he has some power – he has a number of votes for his member nations and can cast them how he sees fit. But let's take a look at the man himself and his career.

The BBC Panorama programme has accused him of serious corruption for using his position for financial gain. Even FIFA's auditors Ernst and Young estimated his family made a profit of at least £500,000 from reselling 2006 World Cup tickets he had ordered. A fine was apparently imposed but only about half has been paid back.

When Trinidad and Tobago played a match against Scotland he didn't think the islands' FA should have the appearance cheque made out to them. He said it should be made out to him. Luckily the canny Scots saw through this and refused but the cheek of it is astonishing.

Then there is the issue of non-payment of correct bonuses to his national team players, an issue on which former West Ham goalkeeper Shaka Hislop – then president of the islands' players association – called him "heavily biased and opinionated".

I could go on – but I won't.

I think you get my point.

EDITOR'S NOTE: All blogs are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance to air their views.

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TEXT: MEDW then your message to: 81800 (please remember to include you name)

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If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the acting news editor, Simon Robinson, on 01303 817185 or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Medway blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 500 words) and email it to the news editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to www.yourmedway.co.uk.

Write to The Editor, Yourmedway, KoS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

• We cannot guarantee all articles will be published and all are at the editor's discretion

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KENT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

yourcompetition

WIN! a hamper of Nielsen Massey goodies to celebrate National Baking Week

DO you have fond memories of licking the mixing bowl clean? Do you remember savouring those delicious aromas of home-made scones, chocolate chip cookies or freshly baked bread? Well, take a trip down memory lane this National Baking Week (October 19-25).

Nielsen Massey, one of the partners of National Baking Week, will be encouraging amateur cooks and professional chefs alike, to get out their spoons and mixing bowls and try their hand at baking some delicious, home-made treats.

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Question: How long has Nielsen Massey been producing vanilla?

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TALK TIME

TIM DECKER

The Medway Magical Society president talks about his first card trick and the best magic act ever performed

Tell us a little about yourself.

I served in the Regular and Territorial Army for more than 20 years but now work in the banking industry in an IT related job. I first got interested in magic when I was in my early 30s. I had always enjoyed drama at school and I really liked to opportunity to perform and entertain people.

What was the first trick you learnt and how well received was it?

The first magic I learnt was a simple card trick. At the time I was working for Lloyd's of London in Chatham and I performed for some work colleagues. They really enjoyed it and this encouraged me to develop a small act, which I then performed at our Christmas lunch. I have never looked back.

Tell us about the Medway Magical Society.

The society was formed more than 60 years ago to help further the art of magic in the Medway area. We are still going strong and continue to attract new members. We meet twice a month, where we have lectures from visiting magicians, teaching sessions and various competitions.

How can people contact you?

We always welcome people to our club who are interested in the art of magic. Full details of our meeting schedule and contact details are available on our website: www.medwaymagicalsociety.org.uk.

YOUR LETTERS

Award for dog attack victim who saved tot

Hero Sally-Ann is inspiration to all

Sally-Ann Sutton thoroughly deserves her Pride of Britain award. Her actions were incredibly brave and saved the young boy from being badly hurt or even killed by that dog. I admire her modesty, in claiming anyone would have done what she did. I have to disagree. Many others would not have acted as quickly, instinctively or without regard for their own well-being. She is a true hero and an inspiration to us all.

Maria Smith, from Rochester, by email

Tories lesson in lies over school closure

At last week's cabinet, the Tories ignored the pleas of parents, staff, governors and children and confirmed their earlier decision to shut the successful and popular St John's Infants School in Chatham.

The Tories claimed that: The government was making them close schools. This is not true as school organisation is a matter for local councils according to the 1998 School Standards Act.

They had to close schools to get rid of surplus places. Again not true as there are only 15 surplus places at St John's so this closure will not help tackle surplus places.

Teachers were retiring. Not true as no teachers have handed in their notice.

There are plenty of places for the St John's children at other schools. This is completely untrue as nearby schools only have a handful of the places needed by St John's children.

The Tories quoted selectively from the school's new Ofsted report. The report from Ofsted was not due for publication until October 8 and should not have been mentioned at the meeting on October 6 for reasons of confidentiality.

Not a single reason given by the Tories justified the decision to close St John's, the information used was untrue and confidential information has been used in a completely inappropriate way. All of which begs the question why close St John's?

The community in Chatham has suspected for some time that the real reason is to do with the land. A developer would find St John's a very attractive proposition and as with Ridge Meadow, the Tories can't resist the chance to sell off highly attractive development land for a fast buck.

The Tory deputy leader, Cllr Jarrett said that he has a responsibility for all of the children in Medway. This appears not to mean the children at St John's or at Ridge Meadow because land is more important to the Tories than children.

Cllr Bill Esterson, Labour group spokesman for children's services on Medway Council, by email

Lib Dems against coal-fire station

This is a deserved victory for environmental campaigners in the Medway Towns. The Liberal Democrats, both locally and nationally, have been the only party to support their aims by consistently opposing a new coal-

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fired power station at Kingsnorth.

We must reduce the amount of energy we use by increasing the energy efficiency of our homes and invest in green renewable energy. These are just some of the solutions other than dirty coal and nuclear power which can maintain energy security, make bills fairer and protect the environment.

Liberal Democrats will only support new coal if the power stations are fitted with 100 per cent carbon capture and storage technology from day one. Funding for CCS demonstration must be focussed on retro-fitting existing power stations.

Councillor Geoff Juby, Liberal Democrat parliamentary candidate for Rochester and Strood, by email

Campaign victory has saved lives

This is a huge victory for campaigners in Kent, across the UK and most of all for the world's poorest people, whose lives would have been devastated by the proposed power station's contribution to climate change.

It's not yet clear what the Government's official reaction to this news will be, but the UK's already massive climate debt to the developing world means that we must radically reduce our carbon emissions now.

The Government must rule out new coal in the UK straight away, ahead of crucial international talks at Copenhagen.

The Kingsnorth issue has been a major embarrassment for the Government's claim to be a leader on tackling climate change. We must now focus on investment in renewable energy and abandon plans for new coal power in the UK.

Kirsty Wright, climate campaigner at the World Development Movement, by email

The coal and climate fight will continue

E.on has announced it is shelving current plans to forge ahead with building a new coal-fired power station at Kingsnorth.

Claiming the decision was a result of lower electricity demand during the recession, the company said; "We expect to defer an investment decision on the Kingsnorth proposals for up to two to three years".

Their announcement isn't exactly strong with "we expect to defer" and could be a cynical attempt to pressurise the Government in hurrying up with giving consent. E.on would not have been starting construction until after the Government coughed up a billion pounds of public money to subsidise the project and wasn't expected until 2011 anyway. So this is not time to let up on the pressure, but an opportunity to hammer the nails into the coffin of the idea that we can should attempt to solve the energy problem by reverting to last century's dirty fuel.

Tipping Point, in Gillingham High Street, by email

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Festival brings together the best in music, theatre, arts and comedy in a fortnight of fun in the city

CANTERBURY FESTIVAL
Saturday, October 17 to Saturday, October 31
Various venues, Canterbury.

BIG names in music, theatre, comedy and the arts are flocking to Kent for this year's Canterbury Festival.

From exquisite classical music to riotous children's entertainment, there is something for every taste in the programme of concerts, talks, workshops, exhibitions and events. And with dining and accommodation bargains on offer from The Big Eat and The Big Sleepover promotions, Canterbury is the place to be.

The festival gets underway with the community Carnival Parade, which leaves the Westgate Hall at 5pm on Saturday, October 17.

The cathedral hosts a number of concerts, including the already sold-out performance of Handel's Coronation Anthems by Harry Christophers and The Sixteen.

Enjoy the sounds of Russia with the St Petersburg Symphony Orchestra and cellist Guy Johnston, while the Trondheim Soloists bring some Scandinavian influences. The cathedral is also the setting for Canterbury Choral Society's rendition of Haydn's Creation.

Bad Manners will play at the first night party and Cara Dillon, Roberto Fonseca, the Abram Wilson Quartet, the Devon Sproule Band and Polish spectacle The Table all feature in the world music programme, while the Festival Club will rock to the sounds of Los Desterrados, Heads South, Strangeworld, Johnny Flynn and Earl Gaines & The Catfish Kings.

Laughs will be provided by the likes of Julian Clary, Stewart Lee, Alistair McGowan, Sarah Millican and Reginald D Hunter, and theatre fans can lose themselves in high-quality productions like Gertrude's Secret, Morecambe, The Really Promising Company, and Spymonkey's Moby Dick.

Film director, food critic and author Michael Winner, broadcaster Joan Bakewell, adventurer Charley Boorman and new Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy, join the diverse line-up of speakers.

Potted Pirates, Stick Man and Beneath the Banyan Tree are among the family shows on offer, while the art will be on display in various exhibitions. With walks, Artists' Open Houses and umbrella events, there is a wealth of entertainment.

Pick up a brochure or go online at www.canterburyfestival.co.uk to see the full listings. Tickets can be booked online or on 01227 787787.

HIGHLIGHTS: Adventurer Charley Boorman and below, Julian Clary. Top, Moby Dick

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JOE PASQUALE

Friday, October 16
Central Theatre, Chatham

SINCE winning the crown and the hearts of the nation in I'm A Celebrity... five years ago, Joe Pasquale has hardly stopped.

The Kent-based comedian has enjoyed a variety of hair-raising adventures, from entertaining the troops in Basra to boxing in a Costa Rican prison. He braved the water, mud and formidable obstacles to take part in a celebrity version of Total Wipeout, travelling all the way to Buenos Aires to compete against athletes like Sally Gunnell and Fatima Whitbread.

He has continued to delight comedy fans on television and in live venues with his own brand of ridiculous humour, while winning even more fans in his role of presenter on game show, The Price Is Right.

Pasquale has also ventured beyond the small screen to provide the voice of Claudius the mouse in Garfield: A Tale of Two Kitties and the dentist of Whoville in Horton Hears a Who!, the hit film starring Jim Carrey and Steve Carrell.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £18.50/£17. Book online at www.thecentraltheatre.co.uk or call the box office on 01634 338338.

BEVERLEY CRAVEN

Friday, October 16
The Mick Jagger Centre, Dartford

TEN years after the release of her last studio album, Beverley Craven is back on the music scene.

Craven moved to London from Hertfordshire at just 18 to pursue her dream, but several years passed before she won a recording contract.

She became an instant success with the release of her debut single, Promise Me, in 1991 and her self-titled debut album sold more than two million copies.

In 1992 she was named Best British Newcomer at the Brit Awards.

In 1999 she took a break from the music business following the release of her third album, Mixed Emotions, to raise her family. She has also successfully battled breast cancer and has now returned with Close To Home, her most personal album to date.

Support will be provided by Jon Allen, an independent singer-songwriter who wowed audiences and the host with his appearance on Later...With Jools Holland earlier this year.

The concert starts at 8pm and tickets cost £17.50/£15.50. To book call 01322 291100.

GORILLA MONTH

Running throughout October
Howletts Wild Animal Park, near Canterbury and
Port Lympne Wild Animal Park, near Hythe

THROUGHOUT the month both parks will be going giddy over gorillas, with a range of themed events taking place every day to celebrate the parks 78 gorilla inhabitants.

At the parks you can see the gorillas receive their feeds before heading to their restaurants to curb your own appetites – each child meal comes with a free gorilla mask to add a bit of the wild to the dining experience.

Every day one lucky visitor, over seven years old, will win the chance to take part in a gorilla feed by being named the Golden Ticket winner of the day.

With a free goodie bag for every child, gorilla craft sessions and interesting gorilla facts, there will be more than enough to keep everyone happy.

Alongside trivia about the parks most famous residents, visitors will learn about The Aspinall Foundation, which seeks to stop the rapid decline of critically endangered western lowland gorilla numbers.

Book online to save 20 per cent on your ticket price. Go to www.totallywild.net.

MEDWAY LEISURE

Dreamboats promise glamorous night out

GET ready for the ultimate girls' night out as The Dreamboys visit the Orchard Theatre, Dartford.

The UK's most successful male glamour show will tantalise the audience with their slick dance routines, strong singing and sexy fantasy scenes.

The adults-only show starts at 7.30pm tomorrow. Tickets cost £17.50 or £15 each for groups of 10 or more. Book online at www.orchardtheatre.co.uk or call the box office on 01322 220000.

Heart charity could help make life easier

VOLUNTARY and community groups in Kent could benefit from grants of up to £2,000 from the British Heart Foundation.

The Help a Heart Grant programme offers cash help to projects which promote healthy lifestyles or improve the lives of heart patients and their carers.

For details visit www.bhf.org.uk/helpaheartgrant or call 0207 554 0426.

Make a date with the embroiderers guild

DISCOVER ten good reasons to make a quilt at the next meeting of the North Kent Embroiderers Guild.

Jean Ball will talk about making quilts at the St Andrew's Centre in Gravesend at 2pm on Saturday. Admission is £2 for members and £4 for non-members.

For more information about the Guild visit www.northkentembroiderers.co.uk.

Enjoy an evening at the legendary Flamingo

RELIVE the swinging sixties when legendary musicians present A Night at the Flamingo.

The Alan Price Set will be performing along with Chris Farlowe, Maggie Bell and Flamingo blues legends, Zoot Money and Bobby Tench, at the Central Theatre in Chatham on Saturday.

Tickets cost £19.50/£18 from www.thecentraltheatre.co.uk or 01634 338338.

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yourmedwaymusic

Creep into The Cellar for an indie Halloween night

BY **SIMON ROBINSON**

CLUBBERS can seek refuge from ghosts, ghouls and un-dead zombie hordes this Halloween at Moogie Wonderland.

The monthly indie-fuelled club night takes place in The Cellar, underneath The Queen Charlotte pub in Rochester High Street.

Admittedly, a cellar isn't necessarily the best place to hide when trying to avoid the clutches of the flesh hungry living dead, witches and other associated Halloween nasties.

But Moogie is offering free cakes. Free. Cakes. If I'm going to meet my maker this Halloween I intend to do so with a free cake in my hand.

A Moogie spokesman said: "The specifics of our Halloween installment are still being determined, but we thought it best to give you all notice now that the best place to be on Halloween will be The Cellar.

"Those of you who have been at our previous Halloween Moogies will remember happenings most unlike any other regular clubnight in Medway.

"As well as the Halloween mayhem, we'll also find time to play the usual; namely lovely indiepop like Camera Obscura, Belle & Sebastian, Moldy Peaches, I'm From Barcelona, lovely French pop like Jacques Dutronc, France Gall and Serge Gainsbourg, freaky soundtracks, electronic blips, organ blops and noisy psychpunk."

Moogie takes place on Saturday, October 31 from 9pm to 2am.

Entry costs £3. Fosters is £2 a pint.

UNDERGROUND: It will be a Moogie Wonderland this Halloween in The Cellar in Rochester High Street

Moogie Wonderland nights will also appeal to fans of bands such as Super Furry Animals, The Loves, Magnetic Fields, Of Montreal, Los Campesinos, Hot Chip and The Divine Comedy, among others.

The next Moogie Wonderland will be held on Saturday, November 28, followed by the New Year's Eve party on Thursday, December 31.

For more information on these events visit www.myspace.com/moogiewonderland.

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MEDWAY SHOPPING

Fashionable footwear line is only one of a size

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The limited edition Flash collection is made up of four ladies styles and there will only be one pair available in each size. So footwear fashionistas will need to be quick if they want to snap up an exclusive pair of boots or shoes.

The range will go on sale at Geox in Bluewater tomorrow.

Sell your old phone and help a charity out too

RECYCLE your mobile phone and help a children's charity at the same time with the help of a new website.

Regenersis, Europe's largest mobile phone recycler, is offering consumers the chance to sell their old mobile phones via www.fonebak.com.

They can then choose to donate some or all of the proceeds to Children in Need through the website.

Website will help you sniff out a new scent

BUYING perfume for loved ones can backfire if you end up with a stinker, but help is at hand.

The Fragrance Shop has launched a new online fragrance finder, Dr Nose, which helps customers find the perfect match. If looking for a gift, they simply answer questions about the recipient, their preferences and the occasion. Or anyone looking for a change of scent can get recommendations based on their current fragrance.

See www.thefragranceshop.co.uk or ask a member of staff at your local store.

Wash away tears with new kids hair products

TANTRUMS at bath-time will be a thing of the past now a children's hair salon has launched its own products.

Acclaimed London salon, Tantrum, has created a range of deliciously scented, gentle hair products designed specifically for children, from toddler to ten year olds. The range includes My Clever Coconut Shampoo, My Grown Up Apple Conditioner and My Marvellous Shampoo & Body Wash.

Tantrum products are now available from Tesco.

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Terms and conditions: Gorilla month is running throughout October only. Free goodie bag is given with every full paying child ticket. Free animal mask is given to every full paying kids meal deal. *Below 20% discount only available to individual adult and child tickets. *One golden winning ticket to feed the gorillas will be subject to availability. *Enrichment workshops are available during October half term only, subject to availability. **Subject to additional charge.

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Howletts & Port Lympne Wild Animal Parks

Normal entrance fee applies - no additional charge

totallywild.net 0844 855 0276

Register for email updates at www.totallywild.net

WIN a FREE VIP day out and become a keeper for the day

Howletts & Port Lympne Wild Animal Parks are teaming up with KOS media to offer readers an exclusive prize giveaway! The stunning prize could be yours simply by entering into our fantastic prize draw.

One lucky winner* will get the chance to get up close and personal with the animals and keepers of TV's ROAR! Go behind the scenes on a VIP 90 minute safari ride and learn all about the fascinating creatures and surroundings of the African Experience.

How brave are you? Come face to face with creepy crawlies and meet the people whose job it is to care for the endangered animals at Port Lympne Wild Animal Park.

During your VIP ranger day you will also have the chance to feed our Western Lowland Gorillas during the afternoon – its nuts all round with many more VIP activities throughout the day.

HOWLETTS & PORT LYMPNE WILD ANIMAL PARKS

For more information about our Wild Animal Parks and conservation projects visit our website totallywild.net

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Prize of VIP ranger for the day is subject to available dates at the time of prize draw closing date. This includes entry to Port Lympne Wild Animal Park, complimentary lunch and a full day of exciting animal activities. Winner will be chosen at random, judge's decision is final.* children must be over 7 years of age to enter prize draw. Child aged 7 – 16 years must be accompanied by an adult.

Advertisement

Go Gorilla crazy at Howletts & Port Lympne Wild Animal Parks this October!

It's October which means Gorilla Month at Howletts and Port Lympne Wild Animal Parks in Kent. Throughout the month both parks will be going giddy over gorillas with a range of gorilla-themed special events taking place everyday!

Howletts and Port Lympne house the world's largest collection of gorillas in human care – with 78 Western Lowland gorillas between the two parks. This half term, children and adults are invited to hear talks from the expert keepers about the parks most famous residents as part of a month of gorilla-themed activities. As well as hearing all about the lives of the gorillas at the parks, visitors can learn about the vital conservation work carried out by the parks through The Aspinall Foundation, which seeks to stop the rapid decline of critically endangered Western Lowland gorilla numbers.

With fewer than 100,000 Western Lowland gorillas left in the world, their extinction is a real possibility by 2020 if numbers continue to decline at the present rate. Through their consistent rescue and rehabilitation projects in Africa, the parks have overseen the release of more than 50 wild-born gorillas—all orphans of the bush-meat trade--into protected areas in the Congo and Gabon. As part of their commitment to breeding endangered species, the parks have also reintroduced 10 hand-reared gorillas born at the Kent parks to their ancestral homes, including the successful introduction of 3 gorillas last summer to the national park in Gabon.

Gorillas spend over 30% of the day eating, and visitors will have the chance to witness their natural foraging behaviour that Gorillas display when receiving their feeds. Peckish guests can head to the park's restaurant and dining area to curb their own appetites – with each kids meal coming with a free gorilla mask to add a bit of the wild into the dining experience!

As if this isn't enough, every day one lucky visitor (over 7 years old) will win the chance to take part in a gorilla feed by being named as the Golden Ticket winner of the day.* On arrival every child will be given a free goodie bag, packed full of activities to excite their curiosity in gorillas. From colouring sheets to puzzles, gorilla craft sessions to free gifts there'll be more than enough to keep everyone happy this Gorilla month!

And, for a limited time only, you'll be able to book online to save 20% on your ticket price offer ends on 31st October.*

Howletts Wild Animal Park, Bekesbourne
Nr. Canterbury CT4 5EL

Port Lympne, Nr. Ashford CT21 4LR

For more information visit www.totallywild.net

Terms and conditions

Gorilla month is running throughout October only. Free goodie bag is given with every full paying child ticket. Free animal mask is given to every full paying kids meal deal. *Online 20% discount only available to individual adult and child tickets. *One golden winning ticket to feed the gorillas will be subject to availability. Please visit www.totallywild.net for further terms and conditions.

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THE INVENTION OF LYING (12A)

Ricky Gervais directs himself in a comedy where everyone tells the truth except for one misfit, who discovers the act of lying, and milks it. Jennifer Garner and Rob Lowe co-star.

CREATION (PG)

In the year that marks the bicentenary of Charles Darwin's birth, Jon Amiel's biopic focuses on the turbulent period before Darwin committed his radical theories to parchment and reshaped science.

AWAY WE GO (15)

Sam Mendes's film paints a vivid portrait of contemporary America and its foibles as expectant parents leave behind their blissful backwoods home for the sake of their imminent child's prospects.

Love happens on screen for single girl Jennifer

■ BY **KATE WHITING**

THERE has been a special place in the gossip columns for speculation about Jennifer Aniston's love life since her painfully-public split from Brad Pitt four years ago.

The magazine industry's favourite single girl only has to stand next to a member of the opposite sex and the gossip mills are whirring.

"It's a funny feeling when you're walking down a street shooting a movie and all of a sudden, the paparazzi are there and everybody flees, because they don't want to be the person stuck with the 'mystery guy' arrow," jokes Jen, when we meet to chat about her latest film, Love Happens.

The latest rumours concern her friendship with Gerard Butler, with whom she recently finished filming action movie The Bounty.

They've been spotted in Los Angeles, but Jen insists there's nothing romantic going on with the hunky Scottish actor.

"No, but he's a dear friend, I do adore him," she says, a smile lighting her tanned face.

With the media scrutinising her every move, it's hardly surprising Jen seems to have been unlucky in love since her split from Brad.

She dated The Break Up co-star Vince Vaughn, then model Paul Sculfor and had an on-off relationship with singer John Mayer, which ended in March this year.

And with her latest film casting her as a free spirit, who keeps falling for the wrong guy, there's due to be another wave of press intrusion into her love life.

Jen, who turned 40 this year, became a household name playing Rachel Green in the hit Channel 4 US import Friends.

When the show came to an end in 2004, she made the successful leap into movies, with a role in thriller Derailed, alongside Clive Owen.

But more recently, she's become queen of the romcom, with films like Rumour Has It, The Break Up and last year's Marley & Me.

Her latest outing is as a florist in Love Happens. It centres around self-help author and therapist Dr Burke Ryan (Aaron Eckhart), who arrives in the city to teach a sold-out seminar. But all the time he's encouraging his patients to overcome emotional pain, he's unable to deal the death of his wife.

Meanwhile, Eloise (Jen), has sworn off men altogether. But when she bumps into Burke in his hotel and there's an instant attraction.

Jen says: "Eloise sees an opportunity to fix something, and Burke is looking to be healed.

"For him, it's the first time he's allowed his heart to feel. When you do that, you have to clean out the skeletons."

You get the sense that Jen is speaking from experience. It can't have been easy going from being one half of Hollywood's golden couple, to seeing Brad play happy families with Angelina Jolie.

But she shrugs off the sympathy vote. "There's nothing wrong with me," she giggles.

ROMCOM QUEEN: Aniston plays a florist in Love Happens

LOVE HAPPENS
Certificate 12A

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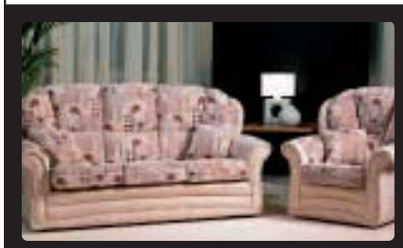

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YOUR TV REVIEW

Picture: BBC

SCARY: Monica Galetti and Michel Roux Junior make Gregg Wallace seem like a teddy bear

BY **MARIJKE COX**

MASTERCHEF: THE PROFESSIONALS
BBC2, 8.30pm, week nights

BEING a professional chef is the one job in the world I know I would completely fail at.

Not only because my cooking repertoire consists solely of macaroni cheese, but the thought of effing and blinding my way around a hot, sweaty kitchen with knives and other life-threatening equipment floating about fills me with dread. That was until I saw Masterchef: The Professionals.

I now think perhaps I wouldn't be too bad after watching some of these hapless "chefs" shake – yes, really – their way around a kitchen.

In some cases, the contestants have even undercooked their food. Even I know that one way to avoid spending a day on the toilet or, worse, killing yourself, is to cook a bird properly.

The formula for the show is the same as it's always been – contestants cooking, judges sampling and someone crying while they hurl their chef hat to the floor as they're eliminated from the next round.

Just watching nervous chefs trying to gut a fish under the icy-glare of Michel Roux Junior's senior sous-chef Monica Galetti makes me squirm, even from the safety of my own sofa.

Her scary facial expressions, that cause even the better of the chefs to shake with nerves, makes co-judge Greg Wallace seem like a teddy bear.

He's the harmless judge the chefs are counting on not to shatter their dreams of owning their own restaurant, winning it for their mum, or whatever unoriginal statement they come out with while sautéing potatoes or pureeing peas.

After the skills and taste test in the first round one 'professional' is sent packing and the others move on to the versatility test. The chefs then have 50 minutes to create two dishes from random ingredients. This is when viewers will see chefs from all walks of life trying to "refine" their food in the hope they will overnight become a Michelin-starred success. If I had a pound for every time a contestant says refine, well, you know the rest.

The final challenge is the classic recipe test, which does exactly what is says on the tin – as long as the chefs follow the instructions.

The show is addictive and for any budding chefs out there, if some of those contestants can manage it, I'm sure you can. Possibly even me with my macaroni cheese.

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE BY RUSSELL GRANT

AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)
AN official decision will be made in your favour, enabling you to move on to greener pastures. If you're recovering from a bad break up, you could meet someone special at a concert, museum, or gallery. They will seem like your opposite in many respects, but you are both reliable.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762

PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)
YOU could inherit a beautiful work of art you have admired for years. Alternatively, money from an investment, government grant, or scholarship makes life a lot easier. Don't question your luck; just use it to further your dreams. A glamorous job could become available.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)
YOU attract romance like bees round a honey pot. If you're single, you could hook up with an admirer who makes you feel desirable. Already have a partner? The two of you may decide to go on a vacation. Any place that affords lots of outdoor activity is favoured.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752

TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)
BEING a help to friends, family, and colleagues is a good use of your time. You have keen instincts about what people need. If you enjoy being artistic and creative why not pick up your pen or paintbrush, or head for the kitchen and whip up something tasty and tempting.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753

GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22)
INVITATIONS arrive thick and fast filling your diary and making you feel great. If you're looking for love, you could find someone special. The two of you will hit it off like strawberries and cream. Beware of spending beyond your means, or you'll rack up bills that could haunt you.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754

CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23)
HOME has always been important to you, and that's especially true now. You thrive in a beautiful environment. If there's a room that drives you crazy, make a plan to transform it. Hosting a family reunion will be a lot more fun than you think. Get some help from a female relative.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755

LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23)
YOU know just what to say to win people over to your point of view. This is a great time to ask for a date, apply for a job, or get a loan. It doesn't matter what your credentials are; you will turn the tide in your favour. People will also be impressed by your boldness .
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756

VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23)
BEAUTIFUL possessions could be coming your way. Be ready to spend a little extra money on clothing, furniture, and artwork that catches your eye, you need to be surrounded by lovely objects. All these things will uplift and inspire you, even during difficult times.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757

LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct23)
IMPROVING your appearance could be as simple as taking a quick inventory of your wardrobe. Donate or toss anything that makes you feel dowdy or depressed. Do some research on styles that flatter your body type. Consult with a hairstylist on cuts that will enhance your face.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758

SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)
FRIENDS have been putting demands on you. You've earned the right to some private time. You may feel conflicted about going away when an exciting career opportunity becomes available. Go ahead and throw your hat in the ring, and then go away.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759

SAGITTARIUS (Nov23-Dec21)
YOUR social self comes out this week. Mixing and mingling gives you a new lease on life. Lately, career demands have kept your nose to the grindstone. Now work responsibilities are easing, you can meet mates for a few laughs. When it comes to money, spend it on fun and adventure.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)
YOU could be put before the public gaze thanks to a work related issue. The reason you've been put in the spotlight is because you have such a pleasant manner. If you are contemplating a career change, check out opportunities that have a glamorous aura around them.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

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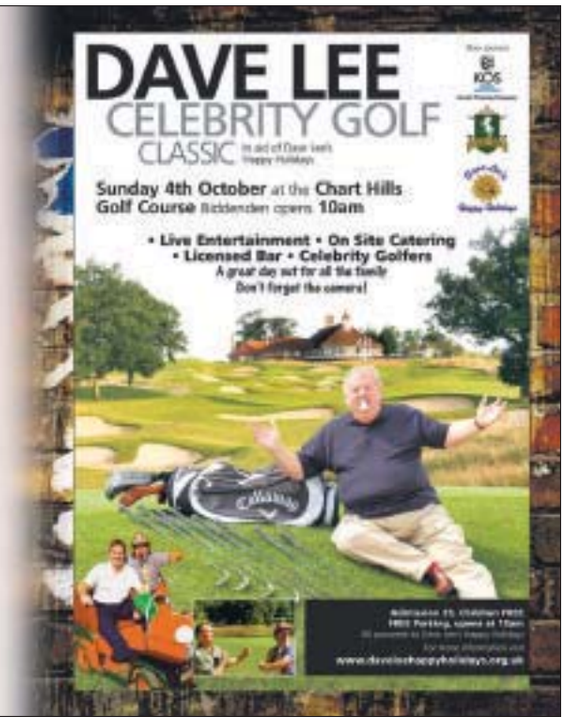

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9	4		5					
	3	5			7	6	9	
	2			7	6			
	9	6				5	8	
			3	9			2	
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					8		6	4
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MEDIUM

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	5	3	6		9			
	1	9	5	6		3		
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HARD

		2		3		8		9
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		1	2		3	6		
8								
				7		4	3	
			6	8				2
1		6		5		9		

CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS
1 Growth of genealogy? (6,4)
6 Endlessly flesh-creeping ego (4)
9 Free to relax (3,2)
10 Mere game (4)
11 Child of four in courtyard shortly (4)
13 Shaky timber producer (9,6) . . .
14 . . . dated feature found in warm countries! (4-4)
16 Remarkably is able to go down rockface (6)
18 Reputation of Wren on bender (6)
19 Impressive joke I made interrupting Scotsman (8)
22 Proconsul verily confused member of body of advisers (5,10)
24 Susan, last character in Egyptian port (4)
25 A quiet corner in church (4)
26 Moggy's 10 across (5)
27 Formerly formerly (4)
28 Sign of possession (10)

DOWN
1 Touched end of pen (4-3)
2 Hat raised during some other time (5)
3 Peep (4,4,4)
4 Star from Interpol (8)
5 Some sixteen ought to be adequate (6)
7 Expedition leader with phoney bulletin boiling over (9)
8 From fear, led out in alliance (7)
12 Wheeled a sandwich? (6-6)
15 One must be tall to have this ungainly quality (9)
17 Father out more? It doesnit hurt as much (8)
18 Toper is drunk in counterattack (7)
20 Scottish essayist from English city, we hear (7)
21 Voice report of popular opinion (3,3)
23 Started smoking when drunk (3,2)

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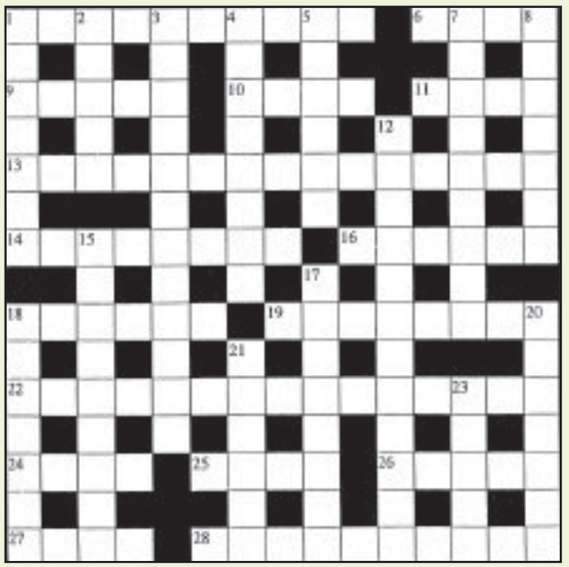

QUICK CLUES

ACROSS
1 Ski suit (10)
6 Labyrinth (4)
9 High-bridged (nose) (5)
10 Lady's fingers (4)
11 Cease (4)
13 Bittersweet (5-10)
14 Neckcloth (8)
16 Part of the neck (6)
18 Humorous (6)
19 Sharp-sighted (4-4)
22 Fellow lodger (6,9)
24 Theatre box (4)
25 Offer for sale (4)
26 Susie (anag.) (5)
27 Intense (4)
28 Single evening performance (3-7)

DOWN
1 Malaysian state (7)
2 West Indian dance (5)
3 Flageolet (5-7)
4 Cheat (3-5)
5 Hearty (anag.) (6)
7 Flattering (9)
8 Beg (7)
12 Suffocating (12)
15 Four-sided figure (9)
17 Hired ruffian (8)
18 Elbowed (7)
20 Male ballet-dancer (7)
21 Computer monitor (6)
23 Small map (5)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No108

EASY

8	7	9	5	3	2	1	4	6
2	6	4	9	1	7	8	3	5
3	5	1	8	6	4	7	9	2
5	3	7	1	9	6	2	8	4
1	2	8	7	4	5	3	6	9
4	9	6	2	8	3	5	1	7
7	1	3	4	2	9	6	5	8
9	8	2	6	5	1	4	7	3
6	4	5	3	7	8	9	2	1

MEDIUM

2	4	6	8	7	5	1	9	3
8	1	5	3	9	6	4	2	7
3	9	7	4	2	1	8	5	6
7	8	1	6	3	9	5	4	2
5	3	4	7	8	2	6	1	9
9	6	2	5	1	4	7	3	8
4	5	3	9	6	7	2	8	1
1	7	9	2	5	8	3	6	4
6	2	8	1	4	3	9	7	5

HARD

8	7	9	5	3	2	1	4	6
2	6	4	9	1	7	8	3	5
3	5	1	8	6	4	7	9	2
5	3	7	1	9	6	2	8	4
1	2	8	7	4	5	3	6	9
4	9	6	2	8	3	5	1	7
7	1	3	4	2	9	6	5	8
9	8	2	6	5	1	4	7	3
6	4	5	3	7	8	9	2	1

Answers to all of this week's quizzes can be found on our website

CRYPTIC SOLUTION No108

ACROSS: 1 Arena 4 Pedicure 8 Tactical voting 10 Wolfhound 11 Troop 12 Ruby 13 Unbutton 17 Jeremiad 18 Zoom 22 Keyed 24 Constrain 25 Advent calendar 26 Elongate 27 Tidal. **DOWN:** 1 Antiwar 2 Excalibur 3 Aright 4 Plaque 5 Dividend 6 Cut it out 7 Rondo 9 Spin 14 Two-handed 15 Smidgeon 16 Calcutta 17 Joke 19 Mongrel 20 Invade 21 At rest 23 Yodel.

QUICK SOLUTION No109

ACROSS: 1 Salopettes 6 Maze 9 Roman 10 Okra 11 Quit 13 Woody-nightshade 14 Kerchief 16 Throat 18 Jocose 19 Lynx-eyed 22 Stable companion 24 Loge 25 Vend 26 Issue 27 Deep 28 One-nighter. **DOWN:** 1 Sarawak 2 Limbo 3 Penny-whistle 4 Two-timer 5 Earthy 7 Adulatory 8 Entreat 12 Asphyxiating 15 Rectangle 17 Myrmidon 18 Jostled 20 Dansеur 21 Screen 23 Inset.

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PROPERTY NEWS

Make your move while prices are still down

WITH the latest positive reports that mortgage approvals were 81 per cent higher last month than in August, Taylor Wimpey South East is urging house hunters to make their move now to avoid missing out.

The house builder, which has sold 365 homes this year, believes the combination of low interest rates, competitive house prices and a wider range of mortgages, makes now the perfect time to buy.

Mark Pajak, regional sales and marketing director for Taylor Wimpey South East, said: "It's no surprise that record low interest rates and more affordable property prices have been attracting savvy house hunters for a number of months now.

"However, the clear signs of sustained house price growth and news that high street banks are beginning to lend more freely – with price wars breaking out between two major players – is surely the clearest sign yet that the property market is getting back on track.

"Those who have put their moving plans on hold in the hope of prices falling even further should rethink their strategy to avoid missing out."

Simon Miller Company welcomed into the Guild

ESTATE agent Simon Miller and Company of West Malling has been awarded membership of the prestigious Guild of Professional Estate Agents.

The Guild is a nationwide network of more than 400 leading estate agents, all dedicated to maintaining the highest standards of professionalism and customer service.

Guild membership is traditionally only granted to one agent in a given area.

This award means that Simon Miller and Company has been judged to have met the guild's exacting membership criteria, and in recognition of this achievement has been selected as its sole representative in West Malling.

Spokesman Jay Speller said: "It is a tribute to all the hard work and investment in building our reputation for high quality professional service, and underlines our position as the leading estate agent in the area."

Speaking on behalf of the guild, CEO Marcus Whewell said: "We're delighted to welcome Simon Miller & Company. Their excellent reputation and focus on outstanding service means they'll be an important and valued asset to the network."

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EXCHANGE RATE: HIPs reduce transaction times by up to 12 days and exchange-ready packs have further reduced times, which is good news for the majority who want fast sales

It's HIP to be upfront when selling your home

■ BY **NICK AMES**

A RECENT survey claims the majority of consumers are satisfied with the delivery of their Home Information Packs.

The Ipsos MORI survey, commissioned by the Association of Home Information Pack Providers revealed that six out of seven of those surveyed say the need to obtain a HIP did not influence their decision about whether or not to sell their home.

It also found that 60 per cent said the information provided by the seller in the Property Information Questionnaire (PIQ) is useful to buyers, with nearly three quarters saying it took less than 20 minutes to complete.

A total of 57 per cent agree that home buyers should be provided with more upfront information about the condition of the property that they are buying.

Yet 30 per cent disagreed that providing home buyers with more information about a property before making an offer would improve the buying and selling process.

And unsurprisingly, four out of five agree that the process of buying and selling properties takes too long.

This last finding is further supported by existing research. For example, a study by Connells has already shown that HIPs reduce transaction times by up to 12 days. Exchange-ready packs have reduced times even further.

Mike Ockenden, director general of AHIPP, said: "Since HIPs were first launched property industry professionals and politicians have been busy debating their impact. At AHIPP we thought it was about time we looked into what consumers think, as it is the British consumer that the packs were designed to benefit.

"What we've found is yet more evidence that the packs are well received by the general public, as well as being widely supported by the property industry.

"For example, research from Connells out last month looked at 3,000 transactions and found an average reduction of seven days when Exchange Ready Packs were used in the process. The research results indicate that upfront information is key and HIPs are obviously an effective way to deliver this benefit to consumers.

"We all know how stressful buying and selling property can be but the packs really do help you through, as these findings indicate."

Make sure you're getting the right mortgage deal

ESTATE agent Your Move says it is concerned by the increasing number of people asking for help in solving problems with mortgages or re-mortgages.

The company says great care should be taken when it comes to deciding upon the right deal. Chris Neal, financial consultant for Your Move in Ashford, said: "It's understandable why many people think finding a mortgage is comparatively easy with price often being the only thing that matters to them.

"Many are often swayed by the apparent attractiveness of special deals offered by high street banks and building societies or the implied ease of using so-called 'specialist' internet sites.

"Unfortunately by taking these routes many borrowers are significantly reducing the likelihood of finding the most suitable mortgage for their needs and budget.

"And along the way they may face unexpected costs. For example, high fees or the often pricey lender's insurance.

"They may also find, when using internet sites, that they don't have a single point of contact to raise any concerns they may have and don't receive the ongoing support that can prove invaluable, particularly when first getting a mortgage or when a mortgage deal comes to an end.

"Like many DIY projects many people will feel confident they are doing the right thing only to find, further down the line, that it's not all going to plan and that they have to call in the experts to sort them out.

"It's the same with mortgages."

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*Source: Hitwise May 09. **Property portal visitor stats May 09.

EAR8061 06/2009

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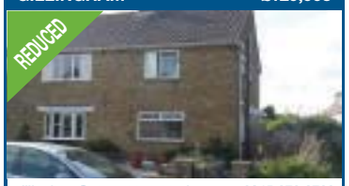

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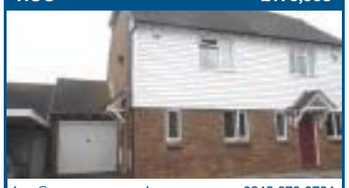

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• Two Bedroom Semi Detached • Popular Modern Development • Cloakroom

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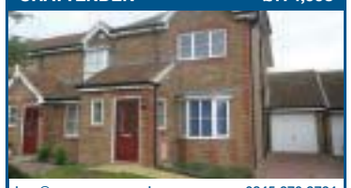

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• Semi Detached Bungalow • Two Bedrooms • Lounge • Kitchen

PUBLIC NOTICE

34 MERSHAM COURT, WAKELEY ROAD, RAINHAM, KENT ME8 8EL

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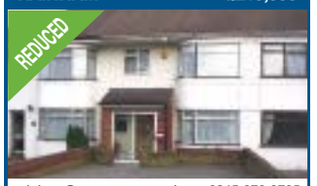

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- Detached House
- En-suite & Dressing Room
- Re Fitted Kitchen

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- Semi Detached Property • Three Bedrooms
- Kitchen Dining Room • Bathroom

ROCHESTER £359,995

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- Sought After Location • End Terrace • Five Bedrooms • Two Reception Rooms

ROCHESTER £425,000

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- Sought After Location • Completely Renovated • Link Detached Property

STROOD £175,000

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- Extended Family Home • Three Bedrooms
- Kitchen • Conservatory

CLIFFE £189,990

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- Semi Detached Victorian Home • Four Bedrooms • Garden • No Chain

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- Three Bedroom Home • Conservatory
- En-suite To Master • Utility Room

CUXTON £290,000

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- Three Bedroom Semi Detached Family Home • Approx One Acre Gardens

STROOD £325,000

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- Four Bedroom Home • Attractive Gardens
- Double Garage • Ensuite

WALDERSLADE £200,000

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- Extended • Four Bedrooms • En-suite To Master • Two Receptions

LORDSWOOD £265,000

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- Three Bedroom Bungalow • L Shaped Lounge/Diner • Garage And Parking

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- Impressive Manor House
- Set In Approximately 4.5 Acres
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- Five Bedrooms
- Games Room + Study
- Unique Modern Upgrades
- Immaculately Presented
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- Conservatory • Drive To Side

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- Kitchen + Utility
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- Double Glazing,
- Central Heating

OIEO £120,000

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- Lounge/Diner With Balcony

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- Rural Village Of Wouldham
- No Onward Chain, G/F Bathroom

£145,000

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- Garage. Rear Garden
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56 Ivy Street, Rainham, Gillingham, Kent, ME8
We are acting for the mortgagees and have received an offer of £115,000 on the above property. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place. Mann Countrywide, 11 High Street, Rainham, Kent ME8 7HX.

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Gillingham
- Three Bedroom Terrace House.
- Through Lounge. No Chain.
- Upper Gillingham Location.

£110,000

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Chatham
- No Forward Chain Close To Amenities
- Central Heating And Cellar,
- Three Bedrooms, Unfinished Project.

OIEO £99,995

CALL OUR CHATHAM OFFICE 01634 843277

PUBLIC NOTICE

By order of the mortgagee in possession we would advise that an offer of £113,500 has been received for the property: 37 College Avenue, Gillingham, Kent ME7. Any persons wishing to make an increased offer should notify the agents: Mann Countrywide 01654 851008.

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Rochester

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Rochester

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- Bungalow Fitted Kitchen & Bathroom Suite,
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Upper Gillingham | Price Range £210,000 - £225,000
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UPPER GILLINGHAM OFFICE | 01634 281155

Wigmore | Price Range £180,000 - £200,000
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- Sought after Location, Garage

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Walderslade | Price Range £160,000 - £180,000
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- 17' Lounge/Diner, central heating
- Double glazing, garage and driveway

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Gillingham | Price Range £150,000 - £165,000
- 3 Bedrooms Extended To The Rear,
- Gas Central Heating
- Two Reception Rooms & garage

GILLINGHAM OFFICE | 01634 851191

Chatham | Price Range £135,000 - £150,000
- Two double bedroom terrace property,
- with a kitchen/diner plus a
- conservatory, re fitted bathroom

WALDERSLADE OFFICE | 01634 865661

Chatham | Price Range £85,000 - £95,000
- Two Bedroom Victorian Terrace
- Two Reception Rooms
- Cellar, Utility Room, Central Location

CHATHAM OFFICE | 01634 841243

Chatham: 01634 841243 Upper Gillingham: 01634 281155 Lower Gillingham: 01634 851191
Rainham: 01634 373531 Rochester: 01634 830925 Strood: 01634 716597 Walderslade: 01634 865661

MOTORS NEWS

UK launches new Jazz age for the downsizers

HONDA has shown immaculate timing by starting to build the Jazz at Swindon – a car for recession-hit Britain.

Some 75 per cent of the five-door supermini's production initially will be for domestic sale at a time when UK buyers are downsizing.

The Jazz should also now enjoy a price edge due to the weaker pound, though Government-sponsored £2,000-a-go scrappage grants have boosted sales – 70 per cent of Honda scrappage deals have been for the Jazz.

'New' Golf estate may not be such a change

VW has unveiled a new Golf Estate, or has it? Look closely and this is actually a revamped Golf Mark V estate with Mark VI cosmetics.

Does it matter? Well, both Golf generations share the same chassis and it is pretty well the best in sector, but the Mark VI hatchback, which was launched early this year, set new class standards in cabin refinement and quality; buyers of the 'new' estate may lose out on much of that when it arrives in January. Prices start at £16,380.

Smart economy is well and truly on the record

SMART'S diesel version of its ForTwo has won this year's MPG Marathon with 96.81mpg over a 360-mile route.

Acclaimed for world-beating CO2 emissions of only 88g/km, the 45bhp Cdi was always favourite, but it actually posted the best ever mpg figure in the seven-year history of the economy endurance event as well as improving the Cdi's official combined fuel economy figure of 85.6mpg by more than 13 per cent. Prices start from £6,900 and the Cdi from £9,227.

TOP LEVEL: The Laurin & Klement trim is certainly a cut above the rest for Skoda styling, but it does somewhat limit your choices when it comes to power options

Driving the posh Skoda

ROAD TEST
L&K OCTAVIA

BY **STEVE LOADER**

LAURIN & Klement is Skoda's poshest trim.

But few people know that, possibly because the attention span of potential buyers crashes when asked to pay a lot more for it than everyday flagship Elegance trim.

The L&K badge comes from mechanic Václav Laurin and book-seller Václav Klement, who founded what became their namesake company and evolved into an upmarket car maker before merging with the Skoda combine in 1925.

Under Skoda's post-Communist era ownership by VW, the L&K badge revived as an exclusive sub-brand – I've just driven 21 grand's worth of L&K Octavia Estate.

Though considerably dearer than an entry level Octavia Estate (from £13,595), the L&K is more capacious than most rivals on price, with a robust cabin plus a shedload of extras.

Over and above the already well-equipped Elegance, L&K spec includes bespoke 17-inch alloys, illuminated interior door handles, L&K kick plates, multi-function steering wheel, leather seats – with heated front pair and electrically-adjustable driver's seat – xenon headlights and ESP (electronic stability control) as on the sporty vRS.

On top of this and a recent facelift, you also get an impressive VW Golf-derived mix of taut handling with decent ride. However, if you take the L&K luxury route, you have less choice of powertrain: there is a turbocharged 160bhp 1.8-litre petrol engine as tested here or a 140bhp 2.0-litre diesel.

It is a tough call. The petrol engine is an excellent all-rounder, with good pulling power across a wide rev range and a 0-62mph time of less than eight seconds, yet sensible driving should mean an average of around 40mpg.

The diesel also has plenty of punch and will do the sprint in 9.6 seconds while averaging at least 10mpg better. But does the diesel have the necessary refinement for the most luxurious Octavia, especially when it costs around £1,500 extra? I can save you another £900 or so too by not opting for the twin-clutch DSG auto 'box tested here.

Normally a fan of this piece of VW kit with its seamless auto mode and tidy manual selection, it does not partner the 1.8 Turbo so well, leading to some untidiness when pulling away on loose or wet surfaces.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★☆
Image	★★★☆☆
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★☆
Reliability	★★★★☆
Green rating	★★★☆☆

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06 56 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4DR ALLOYS SILVER 17000 MILES £7995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR OCEAN BLUE 8000 MILES..... £7995
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06 56 FOCUS 1-6 LX ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR/C STEEL GREY 12000 MILES £7995
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06 06 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR/C ALLOYS SILVER18000MLS . £7495
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06 56 MONDEO 2-0 GHIA AUTO PAS 5DR SILVER METALLIC 23000 MILES..... £9995
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07 57 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 3DR AUTO PAS BLUE 9000 MILES..... £9495
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06 06 CORSA 1-4 ACTIVE 5DR AIR/C AUTO PAS BLUE 16000 MILES..... £6995
06 06 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 3DR AUTO PAS SILVER 23000 MILES £6495
06 06 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 5DR AUTO PAS SILVER 11000 MILES £6995
06 06 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 3DR AUTO PAS ULTRA BLUE 2000 MILES..... £6995
06 06 CORSA 1-0 LIFE ECO AUTO PAS 5DR STAR SILVER 24000 MILES..... £5495

KIA

08 08 KIA RIO 1-4 GS 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C BLUE 8000 MILES..... £7995
06 56 KIA PICANTO 1-1 LX 5DR AUTO PAS SILVER 10000 MILES £5995
06 06 KIA PICANTO 1-1 LX 5DR AUTO PAS SILVER 32000 MILES £5495
05 55 KIA PICANTO 1-1 LX 5DR AUTO PAS RED 29000 MILES..... £4995

CITROENS

08 08 CITROEN C3 1-6 SX AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C BLUE 8000 MILES..... £9995
08 08 CITROEN C3 1-6 SX AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C BLUE 8000 MILES..... £9995
06 56 CITROEN PICASSO 2-0 EXCLUSIVE AUTO DIABLO 16000 MILES..... £8495

MAZDA

07 57 MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5DR SILVER BLUE 17000 MILES.... £10995
07 57 MAZDA 3 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5DR SILVER 8000 MILES..... £10995
06 56 MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5DR SEA GREY 16000 MILES £9995
06 56 MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5DR MET BLUE 9000 MILES..... £9995
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SUZUKI

06 56 JIMNY JLX PLUS AUTO PAS LEATHER SEATS AIR/C 8000 MILES..... £7995
06 06 SUZUKI IGNIS 1-5 GL 5DR AUTO PAS CATS EYES BLUE 15000 MILES £5995
05 55 SUZUKI SWIFT 1-3 GLX 5DR AUTO PAS AIR GREY 16000 MILES..... £7495

HONDA

06 06 HONDA CR-V EXECUTIVE AUTO PAS SAT NAV LEATHER 18000 MILES... £14995
06 06 HONDA CR-V EXECUTIVE AUTO PAS SAT NAV LEATHER 19000 MILES... £14995
06 06 HONDA CR-V SPORT AUTO PAS AIR/C ALLOYS BLACK 14000 MILES..... £12995
06 06 HONDA JAZZ 1-4 SE AUTO PAS AIR/C ALLOYS BLACK 16000 MILES..... £8495

HYUNDAI

08 08 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5DR AUTO PAS MET GREY 5000 MILES..... £6995
07 57 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5DR AUTO PAS MET BLUE 5000 MILES £6495
07 07 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5DR AUTO PAS MET BLUE 4000 MILES £5995
07 07 HYUNDAI MATRIX 1-6 GSi AUTO PAS 5DR MET SILVER 8000 MILES £7495
07 56 HYUNDAI GETZ 1-4 CDX AUTO PAS 5DR MET BLACK 10000 MILES £7495
06 56 HYUNDAI MATRIX 1-6 GSi AUTO PAS 5DR SILVER GREEN 7000 MILES..... £6995
06 56 HYUNDAI MATRIX 1-6 GSi AUTO PAS 5DR SILVER GREEN 16000 MILES £6995
06 06 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5DR AUTO PAS ELECTRIC BLUE 7000 MILES..... £5495
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08 08 TOYOTA YARIS T3 AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DR ALLOYS BLACK 8000 MILES..... £9495
07 57 YARIS 1-3 ZINC 3DR AUTO PAS ALLOYS BLACK UNDER 800 MILES..... £8995
07 57 AYGO 1-0 PLUS 3DR AUTO PAS SILVER 2000 MILES £7495
06 56 COROLLA 1-6 T3 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C MET SILVER 15000 MILES..... £9995
06 06 YARIS 1-3 T3 AUTO PAS AIR/C 3DR BLUE MET 10000 MILES £7495
06 06 YARIS 1-3 T-SPIRIT AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DR BLUE MET 11000 MILES..... £7995
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04 54 TOYOTA YARIS VERSO 1-3 T3 AUTO PAS CHAMPAGNE 6000 MILES..... £7495
03 53 RAV 4 VX 5DR AUTO PAS SILVER LEATHER FSH 70000 MILES..... £7995
02 02 TOYOTA YARIS VERSO 1-3 GLS AUTO PAS SILVER 22000 MILES..... £5995
02 51 TOYOTA YARIS VERSO 1-3 GLS AUTO PAS BLUE 52000 MILES..... £4995

NISSAN

08 08 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA + 5DR AUTO PAS CAFFE LATTE 4000 MILES..... £8995
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08 58 SKODA ROOMSTER 2 AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 6000 MILES..... £10495
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03 03 ROVER 45 IMPRESSION AUTO PAS AIR/C NIGHTFIRE RED 43000 MILES.... £2995

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07 07 CHEVROLET TACUMA 2-0 CDX DENIM BLUE 8000 MILES..... £4995
06 56 CHEVROLET MATIZ 8-0 SE AUTO PAS SILVER 2000 MILES £5295
06 56 CHEVROLET MATIZ 8-0 SE AUTO PAS OCEAN BLUE 10000 MILES..... £5495
06 06 CHEVROLET LACETTI 1-6 SX AUTO PAS 5DR BLUE 15000 MILES £5495

VOLKSWAGEN

08 08 VW POLO 1-4 MATCH 3DR AUTO PAS AIR/C CORNFLOWER4000 MILES..... £9495
07 07 VW POLO 1-4 MATCH 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 7000 MILES..... £8995
06 56 VW GOLF 1-6 S 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 18000 MILES £9995
06 06 VW GOLF 1-6 SE 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C GREY METALLIC 10000 MILES.... £10995
05 55 VW POLO 1-4 S 5DR AUTO PAS SILVER JUST 10000 MILES £7495
04 04 VW LUPO 1-4 E 3DR AUTO PAS SILVER JUST 4000 MILES..... £5495

ASTRA

08 08 ASTRA 1-8 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DOOR STAR BLACK 6000 MILES £8495
08 57 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DOOR SILVER 11000 MILES..... £7995
07 57 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ESTATE METRO BLUE 14000 MILES..... £8995
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07 57 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN LIFE AUTO PAS ESTATE MET GREY 7000 MILES..... £8495
07 07 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DOOR TURQUOISE 15000 MILES..... £7495
07 07 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE PANACOTTA 6000 MILES £7495

ASTRA

07 56 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C STAR SILVER 17000 MILES..... £6495
06 56 ASTRA 18 LIFE AUTO 5DR ESTATE PAS AIR PANNACOTTA 17000 MILES.. £6995
06 56 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO 5DR ESTATE PAS AIR STAR SILVER 8000 MILES ... £6995
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07 57 SCENIC 1-6 DYNAMIQUE 5DR AUTO PAS AIR GOLD 16000 MILES £8995
07 07 SCENIC PRIVILEDGE 1-6 AUTO PAS AIR/C GOLD 10000 MILES £9495
07 07 MEGANE 1-6 DYNAMIQUE 5DR AUTO PAS AIR SILVER 16000 MILES..... £7995
07 07 KANGOO EXPRESSION 1-6 AUTO PAS MET RED 17000 MILES..... £6995
07 07 KANGOO EXPRESSION 1-6 AUTO PAS MET SILVER AIR/C 16000 MILES..... £7995
06 06 SCENIC PRIVILEDGE 1-6 AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 17000 MILES..... £7995
06 06 SCENIC DYNAMIC 16 AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C RED MET 14000 MILES..... £7495
06 06 SCENIC DYNAMIC 16 AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C SILVER 20000 MILES £6995
06 06 MEGANE PRIVILEDGE 1-6 AUTO PAS ESTATE FLAME RED 8000 MILES..... £7995
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06 06 A CLASS 150 CLASSIC SE AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C RED 6000 MILES..... £9995
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01 51 A140 CLASSIC SE AUTO PAS GREY 44000 MILES..... £4995
01 Y C240 ELEGANCE AUTO PAS SILVER AIR LEATHER ALLOYS 70000M..... £6995

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08 57 PEUGEOT 207 SE PREMIUM AUTO PAS 5DR AIR WHITE 7000 MILES..... £10995
07 57 PEUGEOT 206 LOOK 3DR AUTO PAS AIR/C STORM GREY 2000 MILES..... £8495
07 07 PEUGEOT 107 2-TRONIC 3DR AUTO PAS SILVER 1300 MILES £6995
06 06 PEUGEOT 307 S SW ESTATE AUTO PAS 5DR AIR SILVER 12000 MILES..... £7495
06 06 PEUGEOT 307 S AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C BLACK 12000 MILES..... £6995
05 05 206 SW ESTATE QUICKSILVER AUTO PAS AIRC GREY MET 15000 MILES.. £6495

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06 06 ASTRA 1-8 CLUB 5 SPEED 5DR ESTATE PAS AIR RED 36000 MILES..... £6495
06 06 FIAT DOBLO 1-3 DIESEL JET BLUE DISABLED CONVERSION13000M..... £6495
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04 04 MAZDA 2 1-2 S 5DR 5 SPEED MANUAL TONIC BLUE 22000 MILES..... £4695
03 53 ASTRA 1-6 ACTIVE 5DR 5SPD MANUAL PAS AIR/C RED 39000 MILES £3995
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06 06 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C METRO BLUE 17000 MILES £6495
05 55 KIA PICANTO 1-1 LX 5DR AUTO PAS RED 29000 MILES..... £4995
04 04 MAZDA 2 1-2 S 5DR 5 SPEED TONIC BLUE 22000 MILES £4695
04 04 VW LUPO 1-4 E 3DR AUTO PAS SILVER JUST 4000 MILES..... £5495
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USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

BIG PEOPLE CARRIERS/MPVS

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NOT everyone can downsize due to the recession, so big people carriers are still in demand and prices have been edging up – as they have across the used market. Renault drew the 'people carrier' blueprint by launching the purpose-built Espace, but others picked up the ball and ran with it, selling more than the self-styled 'creator of automobiles'; our choices here have certainly outsold the French original. They can be bought as genuine seven-seat family motors that can cope with everything a big family will ask them to.

CHRYSLER VOYAGER

COMMERCIAL and private buyers made the Voyager a big hit in the UK. All versions seat seven, but there is more demand for the extra luggage space of 13-inch longer 'Grand' models and those featuring Stow 'n' Go: under floor capacity that also takes the folded seats when not needed. The smooth and powerful post-2004 diesel auto is the powertrain to go for. Voyagers ride comfortably, but bulk, small wheels and vague steering make for a dull drive.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★☆☆☆
Looks and image	★★★☆☆
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★☆
Running costs	★★★☆☆
Reliability	★★★☆☆
Quality	★★★☆☆

KIA SEDONA

NEVER mind the quality, feel the width describes the Kia Sedona (1999-2006). Replaced by a more sophisticated model, the original is a cheap, reliable and capacious used buy though the interior is tacky, safety features were not up with rivals and it feels lumpy on rural roads, though excelling as a comfy motorway muncher. The post-2002, 125bhp diesel is the engine to go for if the budget will stretch. Sliding rear doors and a big tailgate make access easy.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★☆☆☆
Looks and image	★★☆☆☆
Space	★★★★☆
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★☆☆
Reliability	★★★★☆
Quality	★★★☆☆

FORD GALAXY

IF Renault's Espace distilled the essence of the people carrier, Ford mass-produced it. The 1995-vintage Galaxy plus its VW Sharan and Seat Alhambra clones sold well through generous space and car-like handling. The latter pair are still going strong and should be short-listed if you want something later yet cannot run to the excellent post-2006 second generation Galaxy. Reliability on early 'Mark I' Galaxies is flaky so post-2000 diesels are the best.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★☆☆
Looks and image	★★★☆☆
Space	★★★★☆
Value	★★★★☆
Running costs	★★★☆☆
Reliability	★★★★☆
Quality	★★★★☆

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Fuel consumption figures for the Fiat 500 1.2 Pop mpg (l/100km) and CO2 emissions: Urban 44.1 (6.4) Extra Urban 65.7 (4.3) Combined 55.4 (5.1). CO2 119 g/km.

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VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data – Fuel Consumption Figures mpg (litres/100km): Corsa SXi 1.2i 16v: urban 35.3 (8.0), extra-urban 56.5 (5.0) combined 46.3 (6.1), CO_2 Emissions 146g/km.

Model shown has optional VXR Styling Pack One (£800 incl. fitting and VAT) and optional 17-inch twin spoke alloy wheels (£310 incl. fitting and VAT). Finance by GMAC UK plc, PO Box 6666, Cardiff CF15 7YT, applicants must be aged 18 or over. UK supplied vehicles only. *Payable with the first Monthly Payment. **Payable with the final Monthly Payment. Fully Comprehensive Insurance subject to eligibility, status, terms and conditions at participating retailers only. Offer only applies to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and Pack Sales. All other sales categories are excluded. Corsa SXi drivers must be aged between 19-80 and will need to have held a full UK/EU driving licence for at least 2 years. A compulsory excess of £250 will apply. Please note that additional excesses do apply in respect of young drivers and modifications. Vauxhall Insurance underwritten by Provident Insurance plc (Free Insurance Offer in Northern Ireland is underwritten by AXA Insurance Limited) authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. The free involuntary redundancy cover is optional and is offered to customers who take out a finance agreement with GMAC from a participating Financial Services Authority authorised retailer. The cover, which is subject to eligibility, is for the first 24 months of the finance agreement (excluding the first 90 days, and is up to a maximum of 12 monthly payments). Terms and conditions apply (see retailer for further details of cover). The insurance is provided by Finance Insurance Company Limited. Other providers of redundancy cover are available, for more information see www.moneymadeclear.fsa.gov.uk. £2000 Government Scrappage Allowance is dependent on the vehicle meeting the full Government Scrappage incentive criteria, whilst Government funding applies. All offers excl. Free Insurance (see above) are available to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only). Take delivery before the 31st December to beat the VAT increase. All other sales categories are excluded. Offers apply to selected new vehicles ordered or registered between 02.10.09 and 02.12.09, and are subject to status, eligibility, terms and conditions. Offers may not apply to all retailer stocks and are available at participating retailers only. (Vaux81888)

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AGILA							
2008	58	Agila Club A/c	1.2	5	Steel Silver	4,385	7,995
2008	58	Agila Club A/c CDTi	1.3D	5	Steel silver	6,450	8,995
ASTRA							
2004	04*	Astra Club Auto	1.8	5	Silver	91,800	3,995
2007	57	Astra Energy	1.4	5	Silver lightening	13,890	7,995
2007	57	Astra Sxi	1.4	5	Moonland	27,275	8,795
2008	08	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Black sapphire	15395	10,495
2008	08	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Black sapphire	15,890	9,495
2008	58	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Green spirit	3,725	10,995
2008	58	Astra Sri X Pack	1.8	3	Black sapphire	5,960	12,995
2009	09	Astra Breeze Plus CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	8,320	11,495
2009	09	Astra Breeze Plus	1.6	5	Metro blue	5,950	10,495
2009	09	Astra Breeze CDTi	1.7D	5	Ultra blue	5,650	10,995
2009	09	Astra Breeze CDTi	1.7D	5	Metro blue	4,720	10,995
CORSA							
2001	X*	Corsa comfort auto	1.4	3	Star silver	69350	3,295
2006	55	Corsa Life	1.2	3	Misty grey	11,295	4,995
2006	56	Corsa Sxi Plus	1.4	5	Silver lightening	17,200	6,795
2007	57	Corsa Design	1.2	3	Air blue	21,575	7,795
2007	57	Corsa Design	1.4	5	Silver lightning	19,370	8995
2007	57	Corsa Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Air blue	25800	8,395
2008	08	Corsa Breeze	1.2	3	Star silver	12,220	8,495
2008	58	Corsa Sxi CDTi A/c	1.3	5	Silver lightening	12775	9,795
2008	58	Corsa Design CDTi	1.3	3	Metro blue	6,425	9,995
2009	58	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.4	5	Metro blue	11390	9,495
2008	58	New Corsa Sxi CDTi	1.3D	3	Star silver	4,200	9,495
2009	09	Corsa Sxi In Touch	1.2	5	Star silver	4,110	10,395
INSIGNIA							
2008	58	Insignia Sri (160)	2.0	5	Black sapphire	11,287	16,795
2009	58	Insignia Elite Auto Nav	2.0	5	Star silver	4,060	19,995
MERIVA							
2006	56	Meriva Active	1.4	5	Star silver	11,350	6,995
2007	07	Meriva Energy	1.4	5	Silver lightening	18,950	7,995
2008	58	Meriva CDTi Breeze Plus	1.3	5	Black sapphire	10,930	10,995
TIGRA							
2006	06	Tigra Exclusiv	1.4	2	Air blue	30,500	8,995
VECTRA							
2004	54*	Vectra Design Auto	2.2	5	Oyster	63,100	4,495
2006	06	Vectra elite CDTi (150)	1.9	5	Black Sapphire	38,125	9495
ZAFIRA							
2003	03*	Zafira Elegance	1.8	5	Prestige blue	33,660	4,995
2006	56	Zafira Club	1.6	5	Metro blue	40,250	8,495
2009	09	Zafira Active CDTi	1.9D	5	Ultra blue	12,100	13,995
2009	09	Zafira Breeze Plus	1.6	5	Star silver	8,750	11,995
OTHER MAKES							
2004	54*	Mitsubishi Colt Equipe diesel	1.5	5	Silver	62670	3,995
2005	55	Citroen C2 design	1.1	3	Blue	30450	4,495
DUE SOON							
2003	03*	Astra Club	1.6	5	Star silver	21,000	3,995
2006	56	Astra Active	1.6	5	Silver lightening	36,200	7,895
2006	56	Signum Elite Auto CDTi	1.9D	5	Misty grey	48,000	8,995
2009	09	Zafira Sri XP CDTi	1.9D	5	Star silver	5,000	18,995
2009	09	Insignia Elite CDTi Auto (160)	1.9D	4	Black sapphire	8,000	22995
2009	09	Insignia S Tourer Exc (160)	1.9D	5	Panacotta	12,000	17,995
2009	09	Insignia S Tourer Exc (180)	1.9D	5	Silver lightening	5,000	17,995
2009	09	Tigra Exclusive	1.4	2	Antigua	5,000	13,995
VANS - USED SELECTION							
2006	56	Combo Envoy, plylined	1.3 CDTi		White	36120	£5495
2007	07	Combo Crew van, PAS	1.3CDTi		White	8,700	£7,495
2007	57	Combo passenger seat	1.3CDTi		White	11,450	£6,995
2007	57	Movano Long wheel base	2.50CDTi		White	10,300	£10,995
2008	08	Movano MWB, Plylined	2.5CDTI		White	11,050	£10,495
2008	08	Movano LWB, Bulkhead	2.5CDTI		White	6,460	£11,995
2008	58	Movano MWB H/R	2.5CDTI		White	14,050	£10,995
2008	08	Vivaro Plylined, SWB	2.0CDTi		White	3,770	£8,795
2009	09	Vivaro LWB, 115bhp	2.0CDTi		White	9,200	£10,495
2009	09	Vivaro SWB, 115 bhp	2.0CDTi		White	9,950	£9,995
VANS - PRE-REG VEHICLES							
2009	09	Corsavan Sportive	1.3CDTi		Silver	Delivery	£9,995
2009	09	Movano MWB 10'6" Alloy	2.5CDTi		White	Delivery	£14,995
2009	09	Astravan Sportive CDTi	1.7CDTi		Silver	Delivery	£11,495
VANS - COMPANY VEHICLES							
2009	09	Vivaro LWB Double cab	2.0CDTi		White	TBA	£14,995
COMPANY OWNED VEHICLES							
2009	09	Agila Design	1.2	5	Moroccan blue	2,200	8,295
2009	09	Agila Design	1.2	5	Lemon grass	1,200	8,295
2009	09	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Atlanta blue	1,700	9,995
2009	09	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Steel silver	2,300	9,995
2009	09	Corsa Sxi CDTi A/C	1.3	3	Black sapphire	2,200	10,495
2009	09	Corsa Sxi CDTi A/c	1.3	3	Flame red	2,000	10,495
2009	09	Corsa Active	1.2	5	Silver lightening	3,350	9,995
2009	09	Corsa Sxi In Touch	1.2	5	Star silver	2,200	10,395
2009	09	Corsa Design In Touch	1.2	3	Black sapphire	2,000	9,995
2009	09	Corsa Sxi	1.2	3	Black sapphire	3,000	9,495

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AUDI

A3, TDI Dpf S Line 3dr, immobiliser, full leather, abs, air bags, metallic paint, electric windows, electric mirrors, cd, radio, 18'' alloys, black, 88000 miles, £11999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

CADILLAC

CTS, 3.6 v6 auto saloon, 2005, silver metallic, black leather, 33500 miles, £7850, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CHEVROLET

AVEO, Lt, 54314, 15'' alloys, blue, 1800 miles, £7995, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

CHRYSLER

CROSSFIRE, 3.2 Auto, 2004, blue met, 42000 miles, £11798, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

CITROEN

BERLINGO, 1.6HDi 600Kg First Diesel, pas, drivers airbag, solid paint, service indicator, immobiliser, white, 51 miles, £6995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, 1.6HDi 600Kg Enterprise Diesel, gf08cnn, rear wiper, white, 10 miles, £6995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

C2, 1.4 HDi SX, air con, anti-lock brakes, atomic velour interior, body coloured bumpers, driver seat height adjustment, driver, passenger and front side air bags, electric door mirrors, electronic brake force distribution, front electric windows, front fog lights, immobiliser, adio/cd, rake/reach adjustable steering column/wheel, remote central door locking, speakers, black metallic, 38540 miles, £6285, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

C2, Design 1124cc 3 door, 2005, cd player central locking driver's airbag power steering history check electric windows, blue, 30450 miles, £4495, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

XSARA, PICASSO SX Auto, air con, power steering, abs, front fog lamps, remote central locking, remote alarm, cloth upholstery, adjustable steering column, electric front windows, electric mirrors, cruise control, centre armrest, traction control, twin air bags, cd player, radio, grey, 64800 miles, £3995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

FIAT

DOBLO, Bonhoffa Hot & Cold Catering Vending Truck, av05nwj, bonhoffa conversion. hot cabinet. cold cabinet. 3x access hatches. hand wash. led internal lighting. white, 29000 miles, £11995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

GRANDE PUNTO, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, alloys, trip computer, side airbags, electric door mirrors, drivers airbag, cloth seat trim, service indicator, full size spare wheel, immobiliser, isofix child seat anchor points, rear armrest, crossover black metallic, 26950 miles, £6996, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

PUNTO, SPORTING 16v 3dr, power steering, cd, electric front windows, air con, remote central locking, abs, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, radio, electric mirrors, colour coded body, twin air bags, central locking, 15'' alloys, titanium grey met. 40000 miles, £3999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

FORD

C-MAX, 1.8TDCi Titanium 5dr, SPORT PACK 3, 18 alloys, rain sensing wipers, abs, air con, alloys, central locking, child locks, colour coding body, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking. insurance group:8, grey, 25693 miles, £12495, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

KUGA, 2.0 TDCI TITANIUM 5DR, metallic avalon. leather trim seats, partial leather trim, dvd nav, keyless entry system, 18 alloy wheels, ford power start, privacy glass, abs, alloy wheels, cruise control, front armrest, folding rear seats, lumbar support, immobiliser, passenger airbag, side airbags, radio/cd, sports seats, traction control, 3x3 point rear seat belts, alarm, audio remote control, body coloured bumpers, drivers airbag, electricdoor mirrors, front electric windows, front fog lights, front head restraints, heated door mirrors, isofix child seat anchor points, pas, partial leather seat trim, rear electric windows, rear wiper, remote central locking, s, blue, 5570 miles, £20995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 2.0 TDCI TITANIUM X 5DR [140]AUTOMATIC DIESEL, moondust, ford direct vehicle, dvd touch screen navigation, bluetooth handsfree and voice control, 18 alloys, abs, air con, alloys, cruise control, immobiliser, passenger airbag, rear armrest, side airbags, radio/cd multichanger, rear headrests, sports seats, traction control, 3x3 point rear seat belts, alarm, audio remote control, body coloured bumpers, drivers airbag, electricdoor mirrors, electrically adjustable drivers seat, front electric windows, front fog lights, front head restraints, heated door mirrors, height adjustable drivers seat, isofix child seat anchor points, pas, rear electric windows, remote central locking, solid paint, steering wheel rake adjustment, st, silver, 7114 miles, £17995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

HONDA

CR-V, I-VTEC Executive, abs, air bag, immobiliser, alarm, air con, climate control, cruise control, electric windows, sunroof, cd, satellite navigation, front fog lamps, automatic electric windows, privacy glass, rear armrest, isofix, 16'' alloys, 4x4, pas, roof mounted aerial, visible vehicle identification number, illuminated glovebox, digital clock, side impact protection beams, body colour bumpers, elec heated + adjust door mirrors, internally adjust headlights, tonneau cover, 16'' alloy wheels, leather multi function steering wheel, body colour door mirrors, external temperature gauge, tie down hooks in luggage area, front and rear speakers, pollen filter, lockable glovebox, driver's seat armrest, full size spare wheel, driver/passenger front seatback pockets, hard spare wheel cover, heated front seats, 12v socket in rear of vehicle, chrome door handles, driver/passenger sunvisors and lidded vanity mirrors, driver seat height adjust, body colour side bump strips, steering wheel mounted controls, sliding rear seats, fuel filler release, high security audio, 5 x 3 point seatbelts, front interior welcome light, remote glass hatch release, boot integrated picnic table, tweeters, vechicle stability assist, folding front centre storage tray, white dashboard illumination, illuminated ignition switch, chrome tailpipe finisher, drivers footrest, headlamp on reminder, leather and alloy gearknob, honda super locks, front mudguards, remote keyless entry, 3 point height adj front seatbelts + pretensioners, front and rear cupholders, leather upholstery, headlight washers, grey, 18000 miles, £14995, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

JAZZ, Dsi SE 5dr, It06hde, 15'' alloys, black, 16000 miles, £8495, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

HYUNDAI

ACCENT, CDX 5dr, air con, front fog lamps, remote central locking, remote alarm, cloth upholstery, electric windows, electric mirrors, cd player, radio, abs, power steering, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, twin air bags, alloy wheels, yellow, 19400 miles, £2995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

AMICA, CDX 5dr, abs, air bag, immobiliser, central locking, remote central locking, air con, stereo, front fog lamps, automatic electric windows, radio, child locks, cloth upholstery, air con, 13'' alloys, pas, leather steering wheel, tinted glass, mudflaps front and rear, seatbelt pretensioners, height adjustable front seatbelts, body colour door mirrors, body colour bumpers, front door pockets, 4 speakers, heated rear window, headlamp levelling, 50/50 split folding rear seat, body colour door handles, interior light, front seatback pockets, black bodyside mouldings, remote fuel flap release, seatbelt warning, door/boot open warning light, audible lights on warning, boot light, leather gear knob, seatback hooks, blue, 7000 miles, £5495, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

LANTRA, Gsi, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, cd player, air conditioning, electric mirrors, electric windows, aluminium silver, 67000 miles, £1999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

ISUZU

RODEO, Jiffy Hot & Cold Catering Truck, jiffy pica hot & cold snack wagon. super large rear oven. super large fridge display area. hand wash. silver, 34000 miles, £13995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

IVECO

CARGO, Eurocargo Tector 75E17 Tilt/Slide & Spec Lift, hx04wec, cloth upholstery, dual passenger seat, adjustable steering column, power steering, abs, electric windows, cruise control, radio cassette, colour coded body, lastest version. euro 3. lez compliant. independent 2nd car spec lift. hyrodlic winch. white, 70000 miles, £22000, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

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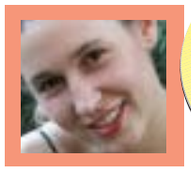

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WOMEN seeking men

MATCH OF THE DAY!
Fun-to-be-with, blonde female, 25, 5ft2, a woman who loves football! Enjoys going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man, to be her soulmate. Box 446494 T

NOT YOUR BROWN-EYED GIRL, BUT...
Blue-eyed brunette, 27, 5ft1, loves films, walking, darts, pool, singing, me time! Looking for honest guy with GSOH, to get to know. Box 880105 T P

IS ANYONE OUT THERE?
31yr old easygoing, independent female, WLTM cuddly fella to enjoy the finer things in life with, leading to LTR with the right person. Box 879931 T P

GIVE AND TAKE IN LOVE
Loving loyal female, 30, blue eyes, brown hair, seeking LTR with male 30-35, 6ft+, no baggage, in the Maidstone area. Box 448471 T

GOOD LUCK CHARM
Sporty female, 34, 5ft2, likes the gym, beach walks, Tennis and cycling, WLTM similar male in his 30s for friendship in Eastbourne. Box 453712

A FAIRYTALE ENDING!
Princess Fiona, 34, looking to meet her Shrek. 5ft8, short brown/blonde hair, blue eyes, large build, seeks romantic caring guy for friendship, maybe more! Box 877957 T P

HAPPY DAYS!
Attractive, fun-loving female, 35, 5'4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTM intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308734 T P

FEAST YOUR EYES ON ME...
Hello I'm Andrea, 35, petite 5ft3, shoulder length curly hair. I enjoy eating out, cinema and I'm looking for friendship and possible long term relationship Box 453039 T

SEALED WITH A KISS
Petite lady, 36, long hair, blue eyes, single mum, enjoys holidays, wining and dining, laughing, seeks loyal, loving man for friendship and more. Box 453079 T

TAKING OUR TIME
Curvy and fit single mum, 37, 5ft7, dark hair, friendly and outgoing, looking for an honest, loyal man for friendship and maybe more. Box 870361 P

HISTORIC MEETING?
Mum of three, 36, long mousey hair, blue eyes, interested in historical places, music, eating out, seeks kind, caring, genuine male 36-49, non-smoker, for LTR. Box 440693 T

SOMETHING LASTING
Professional single mum, 37, own home, looking for a man for friendship, hopefully a permanent relationship. Hailsham Box 455221 T

BE MINE
Honest and caring woman, 36, 5ft5, slim build, blue eyes. I'm caring, honest and have 4 children. I enjoy drives and horse riding. Maidstone. Box 456159 T

GALLOP AHEAD!
Maidstone-based woman, 36, 5ft5, slim build, blue eyes. I'm caring, honest and have 4 children. I enjoy drives and horse riding, and WLTM honest, reliable man. Box 451311 T P

WAITING FOR YOU
Curvy single mum, 38, 5ft7, romantic, loyal, loving and genuine, likes swimming, theatre, live meals, dining out, seeking a LTR with a like-minded male. Rochester Box 458566 T

LOVE TO LOVE YOU
Lovely female, 36, 5ft4, medium/large build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual! Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438102

SEIZE THE DAY
Loving female, 36, 5ft4, brown hair, green eyes, likes socialising, staying in, seeks genuine male for friendship and more. Box 428666 T

CUTE AS CAN BE
Cute single mum of four, 38, Kent-based, into most things, looking for friendship, possibly romance. Box 897983 P

JUST ONE QUESTION...
A warm, generous, attractive and caring lady, 40, seeks soulmate who will love, respect and cherish her. What's taking you so long? Box 873458 T P

A SOUL MATE
Black Christian girl, 39, likes country music, loving, considerate, kind and caring, looking for a like-minded man, 32-50, with a pretty inside. Box 453066 T

WANNA RIDE WITH YOU
Curvaceous lady, 40, 5ft8, long curly hair, into motorbikes!! Single mum, seeks fun-loving bike fan for rides into the sunset. Eastbourne. Box 458787 T

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PERFECT MATCH
Hi I'm Nikki, 5ft7, brown hair, green eyes, enjoys animals especially my pets. Looking for a tall man who has a personality compatible with mine Box 453374 T

YOUNG-AT-HEART
Attractive 38yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks loving, fun male, for friendship/relationship. Box 901893 T P

A NICE BOTTLE OF WINE
Lovely, glossy brunette, 39yr old, petite, bubbly and loving, enjoys theatre, music and eating out, WLTM a professional, loving and tactile male for a relationship. Box 442551 T P

JOINED AT THE HIP
Sociable petite girl with great SOH, 40, blonde, sociable, love football! Looking for fun guy with great SOH for inseparable partnership. Box 880434 T P

TLC ON OFFER
Bubbly, happy, outgoing 41yr old female, enjoy life to the full, like writing, walking, watching DVDs, WLTM like-minded, happy-go-lucky, clean male for friendship and more. Box 459271 T

RECIPE FOR ROMANCE
Single mother, recently separated, 41, 5ft9, slim, blonde/blue eyes. WLTM fun loving man with GSOH, someone honest and genuine. I love cooking, cycling, outdoors. Folkestone. Box 457913 T

BETWEEN US
Asian lady, 41, single, no ties, outgoing, fun-loving, professional, looking for white male, genuine, professional and solvent. Box 451900 T

FOR A RELATIONSHIP?
Shy but confident-once-known female, a mum, 40, likes socialising, tennis, walks, swimming; seeks gent with similar interests to find hopeful love with. Box 452106 T

ACTIVE TYPE
Lively, energetic fun loving mum, 42, 5ft3, petite, pretty, blonde/brown hair, hazel eyes, WLTM honest, fun, mixed race/black gent, for lasting relationship. Box 451819 T P

LOVE IS ALL AROUND
Happy-go-lucky, bubbly Blonde, 42, blue eyes, hard-working, love outings, looking for a nice, genuine guy for relationship. Bromley Box 454517

HELLO EVERYONE!
Single dog-owner, 42, fun-loving, kind and loyal, likes meals out, weekends away, country walks, WLTM a non-smoking guy to share it all with. Seaford Box 454569 T

HAPPY TIMES ARE HERE TO STAY
Single mum, 42, 5ft6, likes fun nights out, cinema, meals out, cuddles and kisses, looking for a fun-loving gent to share happy times with. Ashford Box 459692

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU
Audrey here, I live in Seaford, and WLTM caring man. I'm fun loving, loyal, honest, adventurous, and love animals, cooking, music, film, countryside. Box 872159 T

BELLA ISABEL
Lovely, fun and caring brunette, 42, recently divorced, intelligent, hard working, fun-loving, WLTM a gent to socialise with. Tunbridge Wells Box 878250 T P

TALL ORDER
Curvy lady, 5ft9, 43yrs old, blonde hair/green eyes. I live in Deal in Kent, I'm down-to-earth and like being out and about. Box 456020 T

I SHOULD BE SO LUCKY
Hello, I'm Karen, 42, dark brown hair, medium build, gsoh, looking for a man with no issues and gsoh who can enjoy life with me. Box 452204 T

LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL
Good-looking brunette from Kent, 43, 5ft10, likes bowling, eating in/out etc. Looking for a good-looking guy, 35-45, with gsoh for friendship/relationship. Box 450348 T

LOVE TO MEET YOU
Kind woman, 42, outgoing, happy-go-lucky, sometimes shy. I like gardening, socialising, travel, walks. Looking for happy, fun fella. Aylesford Box 428464

TOO MUCH TO ASK?
Divorced lady, 45, young looking, blonde, 5ft5. I'm well travelled and have many interests. WLTM black or mixed race, loving man for LTR. Chatham. Box 459246

STARTING OVER
Divorced 45yr old cuddly woman, brown eyes/hair, likes swimming, animals, cinema, soaps, the beach. WLTM a honest, non-smoking man for friendship, maybe more. Ashford Box 878141 T P

GENUINE REPLIES ONLY
Bubbly female, 44, brunette, n/s, medium/large build, enjoys singing and theatre. Would love to meet a decent fun-loving guy, similar age, pref non-smoker for LTR. Box 445955 T

FRIENDSHIP FIRST
Understanding, caring female, 45, 5ft4, medium build, brown hair, likes cinema, animals, music, romantic pubs, seeking male for cuddles, hugs and more. Box 444873 T

FROM THIS MOMENT
Young-looking 46yr old female, 5ft4, slim, N/S, affectionate, loyal and caring, looking for a male, 40-45, N/S, up to 5ft7, to share life with. Ashford. Box 454591 T

HEART AND SOUL
Easy-going single mum, 46, 5ft4, size 12/14, likes bowling, gardening, swimming, looking for a man, 35-49, slim/medium build with similar interests. Maidstone Box 454176 T

ETERNALLY YOURS
Easygoing woman, likes most things in life; country walks, films, cinema, cooking. I'm 46, 5ft2, medium build. WLTM genuine, happy guy, easygoing and fun. Box 445635 T

MY PRINCE?
Not-just-for-xmas dog lover, into sports, walks, motorbikes, GSOH, female, 47, pretty, long dark hair, looking for knight in shining armour! East Sussex area. Box 872961 T

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME?
Caring, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, loyal man 42-52 for love and TLC. Seaford. Box 444366 T

SAY YES!
Funny lady, 48, looking for tattooed hippy/biker/metal type to relieve the boredom. Must enjoy cat cuddling and have own chocolate because I never share! Box 878407 T

BE MY FRIEND AND LOVER
Bubbly, caring lady, 47, divorced with 2 teenagers, dark hair, medium build, into cooking, driving, love to talk, laugh and have fun, seeking a normal guy Box 425952 T

ARE YOU LOVING AND CARING?
Young 48 year old, loving, caring, very bubbly, 5ft5, medium build, blonde, blue eyes, likes clubs, cinema, eating, out, cosy nights, good company Box 434089 T P

JUST IMAGINE
Petite, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easy-going single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things, WLTM genuine male, to see where life takes us! Box 893562 T

CARING & PROFESSIONAL
Female 49, 5ft4, long hair, slim build, likes eating out, the beach, travel, seeks a friendly chap, 48-55. Hastings Box 417100 T

NOTHING VENTURED....
Hi there, I'm a Sussex based, 51yr old woman, I love eating out, historical sites etc. Looking for kind gent for friendship, evenings out, maybe more. Box 459181 T

LOVELY BUBBLY
Short 51yr old professional lady, likes history, films and reading, seeking a genuine gent, 45-58, with gsoh to enjoy evenings out, stimulating conversations and fun. Box 452311 T

AWAY WE GO
Cranky young-at-heart lady, 52, 5ft10, enjoys simple pleasures...dancing, walks, people, attempting art and poetry, WLTM new male friends for socialising, laughter and moving on. Box 870417

Text KOS to 81188
Charges: 35p each message you send. Forwarded messages and requested matches: 75p incl VAT.
Over 18s only. To cancel send STOP to 81188. For help call 0871 220 9188 – 10p/min all times. g8wave, London N7 9AH. ©2009 g8wave

Women seeking women

A LITTLE AFFECTION
Intelligent, cheeky, emotional female, 44, WLTM similar woman, 35-65, for walks, museum/art trips, wining/dining, theatre, good conversation & friendship first, maybe more. Pref Eastbourne area. Box 873058 T

HOPE YOU'RE OUT THERE?
Sincere female, 49, likes football, animals, country pursuits, seeks feminine woman for friendship, maybe more. Gillingham Box 456805 T

TABLE FOR 2?
Homely type woman, 50, looking for a similar female. I'm 5ft5, salt & peppa hair, I'm honest and trust worthy and looking for the same. Hastings. Box 455737 T

ATTRACTIVE, BUBBLY LADY
52yrs, 5ft6, blonde, size 12 enjoys good food/wine, theatre, countryside, holidays, seeking a sincere, genuine female, for friendship first, possibly relationship. Box 414143 T

COMPANIONSHIP, LAUGHTER, HOPEFULLY MORE
Curvy & cuddly, outgoing, friendly, honest female, 53, 5ft7, larger build, fair hair, likes socialising, country walks, theatre, cinema, music, swimming, WLTM similar loving male. Box 443642 T

DO YOU HAVE THE BRAINS & THE LOOKS?!
Professional, attractive female, 54, enjoys the countryside, gardening, keeping fit, reading and live music, looking to meet an attractive and intelligent man for a relationship. Box 448863 T P

GREETINGS!
Canterbury Lady, 56 seeking special genuine, fun loving gent, 50-60, to enjoy life with and share interests such as walking, cinema, theatre, dining out, holidays. Box 873039

SMART MOVE
Spontaneous, friendly, lively female, 55, likes cinema, walking, cooking, socialising, seeks similar person for friendship leading to hopefully more. Box 430854 T

I'VE GOT THE GOLDEN TICKET
Christian female, 57, looking to meet a nice man with gsoh to go to the cinema and have fun with. St Leonards-on-Sea Box 449225 T

HOLDING OUT FOR A HERO
Londoner new to the area, 57, 5ft5, slim attractive blonde, seeking a man for serious relationship and lasting happiness. Box 449587 T

LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS!
Smart petite lady, 56, 5ft4, tall, blonde hair, green eyes, likes restaurants, theatre, cinema, travel abroad; seeking happy guy with similar interests. Box 448795 T

ANIMAL LOVER
Attractive lady, non-smoker, aged 57, GSOH. I enjoy eating in/out, seeing friends, theatre, animals, and WLTM similar, non-smoking male. Box 452498 T

PISCES OR CAPRICORN?
Star-struck lady, 59, 5ft3, medium build, blonde, blue eyes, likes swimming, holidays, the sea; WLTM tall man with good heart for love. Box 448240 T

WALKS ALONG THE COAST
Honest & sincere female, 58, tall, GSOH, loves country pubs, coasts, cinema, seeking a man who's a match for me with GSOH for relationship. Box 441622 T

DIVORCED
Loving, kind, honest female, 58, 5ft6, interests include the countryside, old pubs, music, reading and baking. Looking for that special someone to enjoy life with. Box 878455 T P

BRIGHTENING UP
Cuddly lady, 61, 5ft5, blonde, likes swimming, country pubs, cinema and much more. WLTM tallish single man to hopefully brighten each others lives. Box 870214 P

SIMPLE PLEASURES
Hi there, I'm a 61yr old lady, blonde hair/green eyes, medium build. I love dancing, walking by the sea and WLTM like minded gent. Box 459467 T

PUT SPARK INTO LIFE
Caring slim female, 64, 5ft2, like meals out, cinema, walks, gardening and golf, looking for a kind and loving companion, 60-68. Box 450581 T

MEN seeking women

HAPPY CHAPPY
Hi! I'm a happy-go-lucky man, 33, a plumber, I enjoy life and everything in it. I'm fit and active, and seeking the same in a woman. Box 452394 T

CALL ON ME
Hi ladies, Ron here, 37, 6ft2, blue eyes, short hair, medium build, GSOH, loving, caring, seeking female for a LTR. Chatham. Box 873903 T

YOUNG AT HEART
Independent male, 37, 5ft6, hazel eyes, high standards and morals, likes most music, WLTM a like-minded female for love. Broadstairs Box 869936 P

A QUIET EVENING
Shy male, 37, likes gardening, walks, rather than pubs or clubs, personality is more important than looks, seeks a woman, 37-56 who feels the same. Box 459576 T

FAMILY LIFE
Full time single dad of 2, 40yrs old, black hair 5ft7, in good shape, love country life and the outdoors, WLTM non-smoking woman. Box 872344 T P

IT'S WHAT'S INSIDE THAT COUNTS
Loving and caring male, 40, 5ft8, medium build, average looks, seeks outgoing, loving, caring person to find love with. Canterbury. Box 458290 T

LOVE MED DO
Brown-eyed man, 40, likes playing darts, WLTM bubbly, fun to be with lady to go on dates with and get to know better. Dover Box 456129 T

FRIENDS FIRST
Caring, understanding chap, 40, 5ft7, blue eyes/blond hair, slim/average build. I'm easygoing and relaxed, like travel, music, film, restaurants, theatre, days out, badminton. Box 451361

CARE TO CHAT?
Funny male, 41, 6ft2 with a beer belly! Short brown hair, and brown eyes, looking for a LTR with a kind and loving lady. Kent. Box 871189

LOOKING FOR A BIRDIE!
Hi there, I'm Chris, 38, in good shape, attractive, own place, hard working and honest, loves days out, golf, summer! Looking for loving companion. Box 450317 T

LOVE ON THE DANCEFLOOR
Outgoing, young-minded male, 47, smoker, likes war games, books, cinema, castles, places of interest, seeking similar woman to boogie on the dancefloor with. Box 443750 T

MAKE IT A LOVELY DAY
Hi, I'm Carl, 40, GSOH, 6ft, light green eyes, brown hair, looking for a fun, bubbly woman to share laugh, days out and much more. Box 436696

TAKE THE TIME
Mixed race male, 42, 5'10". Looking for an attractive, & romantic female, in Swale, Medway, and everyone's happy. Call/text now. Box 870199 P

GOOD LOOKING BLOKE
Tall man medium build, 44, 5ft9, brown hair/eyes, with an outgoing nature, looking for a female similar to myself with long hair. Box 871274 T

SIMILAR INTERESTS?
Easygoing, laid back gent, compassionate and kind. I'm 45 and have dark hair. I love music (especially 60's/70's), travel, current affairs. WLTM fun, easygoing woman. Box 458860 T

STANDING ON OUR OWN FEET
Hi there, 43 year old outgoing male, 6ft, with brown hair/blue eyes, sincere, caring, generous & thoughtful, OHAC, seeks caring sincere female for loving relationship...Kent. Box 884870 T P

IN LOVE
Single 50s male looking for lady for loving friendship. I'm honest, sincere, genuine and love a laugh, hoping for lasting romance. Box 451188 T

A BETTER TOMORROW
Ashford area. I'm a kind, loving male, 44, dark hair/blue eyes, 5ft6, medium build. WLTM caring, loving woman, 35-55 for LTR. I like cooking and walks. Box 458429 T

THE REAL THING
Phil Mitchell lookalike, 44, 5ft5/blue eyes, N/S, loves outdoor life, gardening, yoga, bike rides, animals...separated father of 2...seeks female 35-45, GSOH, compatible with Libra! Box 456922 T P

HURT IN THE PAST
Seaford based guy, 47, single, no ties, green eyes, attractive. What you see is what you get. I'm loyal, considerate and hard working. Box 457240 T

SILVER FOX
Seaford based guy, 47, 5ft8, single, no ties, silver hair/green eyes, attractive. What you see is what you get. I'm loyal, considerate and hard working. Box 457245 T

HOW ABOUT IT?
Nice guy, 47, short and medium build, short dark hair, enjoys the countryside, walks, drinks, eating out; WLTM genuine caring lady to settle down with. Box 453435 T

ROMANCE IS ALIVE
Easygoing 46yr old good looking male, GSOH, looking or a bubbly female, 45-45, for romance and share the good things in life. Box 454688 T

HAPPY TOGETHER
White male, 47, 5ft7, N/S, easygoing, loves a laugh, enjoys parks/concerts/romantic walks, WLTM female to be with. Nikki, please call back with contact details. Box 444339 P

GET IN TOUCH!
47yr old male, 5ft10, likes to have fun-just a big child really! WLTM an honest lady who wants to settle down with a kind-hearted male. Box 445875 T

A SIMPLE PLAN
Sociable man, 48 seeking a fun, attractive woman. Sittingbourne area. I like theatre, cinema films, cosy nights in, football. Box 870607

AN ENCHANTED EVENING
Fun, genuine male, 49, enjoys, dining out, music, looking for female company to enjoys them doubly so. Eastbourne. Box 459595 T

LET ME TAKE YOU OUT
Seeking honest woman 35-45. I'm a 50yr old guy, easygoing and genuine, I enjoy engineering and socialising. Yalding, Kent area. Box 459666 T

THE ROMANTIC KIND
Easy-going professional 50yr old man, looking for a woman for friendship, maybe more. I enjoy most thing in life, especially holidays abroad and romantic dinners. Box 452860 T

ALL ROMANCE
Romantic, strong male, 50, non-smoking. I love travel, the coast cinema/theatre, restaurant. Looking for love and laughter with lovely lady. Box 445354 T

BEEN HURT IN THE PAST
Good-looking male, 51, wicked soh, 5ft6, fair hair, blue eyes, ohac, enjoy being out and about, seeking a slim lady, -5ft4, for a LTR. Dover Box 459076 T

EBONY & IVORY
White male of 51, seeks a nice black lady 40+ who likes eating in/out, walks, music and more. Canterbury. Box 454981 T

TREAT YOU RIGHT
Fit and attractive man, 52, 5ft7, slim and keeps fit, likes art, reading, poetry, cycling, tennis; WLTM female who's genuine to share this and more. Box 452588 T

DEAL OR NO DEAL?
Fit and active man, 52, 5ft7, slim build, smart dresser, likes cycling, walking, theatre, poetry and film, WLTM a like-minded slim female, 35-55 with gsoh. Deal. Box 459706 T

PREDICT THE FUTURE
Honest guy, 53, WLTM nice woman, any age. I like to cuddle and am hoping to find friendship and affection. I like sport and socialising. Kent. Box 459457 T

ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD
Intelligent good-humoured man, 53, 5ft10, nice looking, loves history, countryside/ nature, animals, theatre, music, meals and most things, seeks outgoing attractive lady to get to know. Box 450723 T

ROMANTIC MAN
Black ethnic male of 54, average height, WLTM a nice lady who's romantic like me, honest, caring, loving and more, for love, romance, and friendship. Box 459464 T

DOWN TO EARTH
Easygoing male, 55, 6ft tall, blue eyes, stocky build, looking for a lady to have loving relationship with. I enjoy meals out, nights in. Box 881939 T P

PLEASED TO MEET YOU
Country man, 55, 5ft9, loves animals, full of fun, likes antiques, theatre and pubs, looking for a happy-go-lucky, slim and active lady. Canterbury Box 458812 T

AS YOUNG AS YOU FEEL!
Hello! I'm a male, mid 50's, but feel and act younger! I'm a smoker, live by the sea and enjoy meals out, golf, driving, holidays. Westgate-on-Sea. Box 455652 T

KIND-HEARTED
Retired professional, 62, happy, confident, GSOH, enjoys gardening, cooking, golf and walking in the sunshine, looking for a slim n/s lady to share nice times. Box 450847 T P

THINKING OF YOU
Considerate, easygoing male, 60s, 5'9", quite fit, N/S, GSOH, own home/car, enjoys dancing, country pubs, holidays, meals out, WLTM lady for friendship. Box 163228 T

Men seeking men

LEAVE A MESSAGE
Hi there I'm Steve, 36, looking for fun, dark hair, 6ft, toned and fit, like sports, seeking similar guy to see what happens. Box 457382 T

ADVENTURE AND FUN GUARANTEED
Fit, young male, 41, 6ft, blond, green eyes, good build, likes keeping fit, nights out/in, seeking man, 25-40, 6ft+, well-built. Box 447518 T

ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES
Active 52yr old man in fairly good shape, looking to meet a nice man for relaxation, conversation and good times. Box 452249 T

FEEL THE MAGIC?
Passionate, white male, 53, 5ft11, very relaxed person, many interests, looking for a genuine, honest black guy. Herne Bay Box 456648 T

TEXT REPLY: For your protection, you will not be allowed to swap contact details until you have exchanged five messages each. **GUIDELINES:** Private individuals seeking long-term, monogamous relationships may advertise in yourkentdating. We suggest that ads contain a self-description, age range, and lifestyle description. We reserve the right to refuse or edit any ad for any reason. Ads may not be submitted by persons younger than 18 years of age for publication in yourkentdating. Also, no ads will be published seeking persons younger than 18 years of age. **DISCLAIMER:** KOS Media assumes no liability for the content of or reply to any personal advertisement. The advertiser assumes complete liability for the content of all replies to any advertisement or recorded message and for any claims made against KOS Media as a result thereof. The advertiser agrees to indemnify and hold KOS Media harmless from all costs, expenses (including reasonable solicitor's fees), liabilities and damages resulting from or caused by the publication or recording placed by the advertiser or any reply to any such advertisement. If you are not a BT telephone customer, please contact your service provider for details of their charges. Service provided by g8wave Ltd. **DATA PROTECTION:** The People2People™ service is provided by g8wave Ltd, 10 Tileyard Studios, Tileyard Road, London N7 9AH. g8wave Ltd will collect the details you provide when placing your ad, including your name and address and may use your information to send you details of other related services and events operated by the company. Your name and address, but no other data, may also be passed on to KOS Media who may use it for their own marketing purposes. Your ad may appear in other newspapers and on the People2People™ Internet site. If you are not a BT telephone customer, please contact your service provider for details of their charges. "yourkentdating" is a trademark of g8wave Ltd.

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Senior & General Appointments 41-43

Public Notices 43

Gravesham Borough Council

Transformation & Finance

Financial Services

Trainee Accountant

Salary: Circa £15,500 - £28,000

Gravesham is a diverse borough facing exciting challenges in the future. We are at the heart of the Thames Gateway and on the brink of massive growth and development, so if you've got vision, imagination and ambition, there's no better place to progress your career.

This is a career grade post that presents an exciting opportunity for the right candidate to increase their experience and responsibilities, as well as providing the opportunity to study for the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) professional accountancy qualification.

Reporting to the Principal Accountant (Technical & Systems) you will assist in the day to day work of the Council's financial services department including assisting in setting the annual budget for the Council, closure of the annual accounts, production of the annual Financial Statement and assisting in technical accountancy support and computer system administration for the finance section and the Council as a whole. We pride ourselves on providing a high quality financial management and advice service to designated budget holders and you will therefore be committed to continuation of this service, as well as bringing fresh ideas for improvements wherever possible.

You will need excellent communication skills and the ability to work to challenging deadlines, as well as possessing an understanding of the importance of the accountancy function to an organisation such as the Council. Experience of using Microsoft Word and Excel is essential, and you must have a customer focused and flexible approach to delivering financial information.

Ref: TA/SB

Closing date: 26 October 2009

For an application form and job description please contact:
Customer Services, Gravesham Borough Council, Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent DA12 1AU.

Telephone: 01474 33 70 00
Email: customer.services@gravesham.gov.uk
Website: www.gravesham.gov.uk/jobs

Gravesham Borough Council is working towards equal opportunities and welcomes applications from all sections of the community. The council also operates a no smoking policy.

Beacon Council 2005-2006 Promoting Racial Equality 2001-2002 Town Centre Regeneration

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HEADTEACHER: Mrs A Southgate BDAKC

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The right candidate will be self motivated and capable of using their initiative. Knowledge of KS5 special needs provision is required, a desire to make a difference in children's lives essential.

A full job description and application form is available from our website www.questschool.co.uk

Please return to:
Quest School, The Old Stables, Church Farm, Church Rd,
Offham, West Malling, ME19 5NX. Tel: 01732 522700
Email: quest_school@btconnect.com

Closing date for applications: Friday 23rd October 2009

Quest School is an equal opportunities employer
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Valence School

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Clean driving licence is essential; PCV driving licence and trade qualification are desirable.

Valence School is a KCC all age residential school for children and young people with physical disabilities, complex medical needs and associated learning and communication difficulties.

Valence School is committed to safeguarding and promoting every student's welfare. We expect all staff to share our commitment. The successful applicants will require an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Check.

For further information and an application form, please contact Lee-Anne Fossett. Closing date for applications is Friday 16th October 2009.

Valence School, Westerham, Kent TN16 1QN
Tel:- 07887 727182 Fax: 01959-565046
e-mail: vacancies@valence.kent.sch.uk

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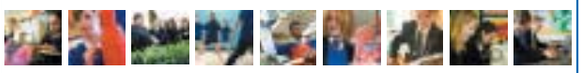

If you are ambitious to 'get on' in the profession then there is no better place to start than at Spires Academy where you will have the opportunity to work with experienced and committed teams of practitioners.

In appointing teaching colleagues we look for candidates who enjoy working with young people and forge positive relationships with them. An enthusiasm for new approaches and ideas is also important.

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Teacher of English

As our English department grows we are seeking to appoint a Teacher of English to join the Academy from 1st January 2010.

Teacher of Girls' PE

We are seeking to appoint a Teacher of Girls' PE to join the Academy from 1st January 2010.

Teacher of Science

As the Academy continues to grow we are seeking to appoint a Teacher of Science to join us from 1st January 2010.

Further details about all posts and application forms are available on our website www.spiresacademy.com or alternatively contact Marion Wigington at m.wigington@spiresacademy.com

Closing date for all posts: 12.00 noon, Friday 23rd October 2009.

Spires Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to appropriate child protection screening including checks with previous employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.

THE THOMAS AVELING SCHOOL

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Teaching Assistant - inclusion project

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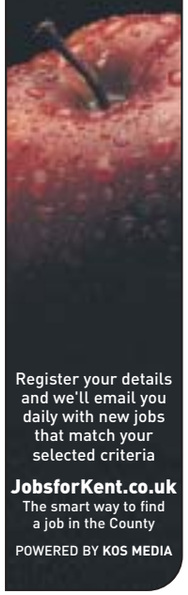

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The proposal is to close Ridge Meadow Primary School in August 2010 and relocate pupils to neighbouring schools. This proposal is made in order to reduce surplus places and to ensure that the remaining provision in the area will be able to deliver efficient and effective education.

The local authority believes the proposal is likely to lead to improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of the educational provision for the children with special educational needs (SEN) currently at Ridge Meadow Primary School because neighbouring schools will thereafter both have significantly larger overall budgets for SEN, and these significantly increased budgets will enable those schools to increase the standard, quality and range of their SEN provision, and improve such provision in the local area from its present levels.

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This notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: Chris McKenzie, Head of School Organisation and Student Services, Children and Adults, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham ME4 4TR. Telephone 01634 334013 or at the following web address www.medway.gov.uk/mpsc

Within six weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them in writing to Simon Trotter, Assistant Director Learning and Achievement, Children and Adults, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham ME4 4TR.

Signed: Rose Collinson
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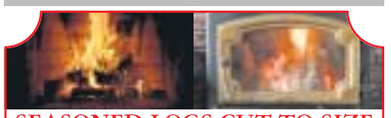

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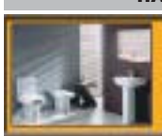

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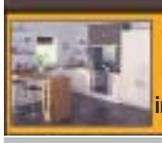

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RECOVERY: Glen Wadsworth's kicking set up the win

RUGBY

Taff's boys show a fighting spirit

Whitstable 19 Medway 32

MEDWAY were forced to dig deep as they came from behind to beat Whitstable and maintain their excellent start to the season.

The visitors were well adrift at the break but scored 29 unanswered points in the second half to post their third successive London 3 South East victory.

Glen Wadsworth kicked Medway into an early lead with a penalty, but it was largely one way traffic in the other direction for the remainder of the half. With two men sin binned in quick succession, and Rob Ellis limping off with an injury, Taff Gwilliam's side were vulnerable and Whitstable took advantage to build a 19-3 lead by half-time.

Colin Chapman reduced the arrears with a well-worked try and on 55 minutes they trailed by just four points as Matt Wadhams dived over, converted by Wadsworth.

Medway completed the comeback with a penalty try, which Wadsworth converted. After weathering a brief surge from the hosts, they went on to extend their lead.

Wadsworth kicked a penalty to make it 25-19 and they rounded off the scoring with a move from a line-out which saw Chapman touch down. It was duly converted to lift the newly-promoted side to fourth ahead of Saturday's home game with rock bottom Hastings & Bexhill.

PLEASE SEND YOUR SPORTS STORIES TO SPORTS EDITOR GLENN PEARSON AT glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk

Pictures: ADRIAN LINE

STRUGGLING: Brendon Cass' (left) goal looked to give Chatham maximum points but Dulwich Hamlet fought back in a game which saw assistant manager Lew Watts drafted in

'We need to be mentally stronger' says Chats boss

FOOTBALL

BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Dulwich Hamlet 3
James 37, Lyons 71 & 90

Chatham Town 3
Ascheri 18, Lovell 48, Cass 70

CHATHAM Town manager Alex O'Brien believes his side need to be mentally tougher after they threw away a two-goal lead to draw at Dulwich Hamlet on Saturday.

Goals from Justin Ascheri, new signing Matt Lovell and Brendon Cass put the Chats in charge at Champion Hill, but they were pegged back after conceding a stoppage time equaliser.

O'Brien felt it was a game his side should have won but admitted even at 3-1 up he never felt secure.

"Mentally we need to be stronger," he told Yourmedway. "There's nothing you can do or say on the training ground, it's something that comes from winning games. There are a lot of players in the squad who've only ever played for Chatham, so maybe they haven't seen enough non-league football to gain that experience."

The Chats travelled with a patched up squad, losing Ben Payne to suspension and injured duo Lee Barnett and Brad Potter. Lovell, who joined from Sittingbourne, started despite not being 100 per cent fit and the lack of defensive options saw assistant manager Lew Watts, 34, drafted in alongside Richard Avery.

The afternoon got worse with Brendon Cass needing six stitches following a clash. The striker was off the pitch for almost 15 minutes and had to keep going off throughout the game to stem the blood flow.

Despite the problems the Chats took the lead through Ascheri, who made amends for wasting a clear opening moments earlier. Dulwich levelled before the break but Lovell restored the advantage three minutes into the second half with a free-kick.

After weathering a sustained spell of pressure from the home side, Town extended their lead through the bandaged Cass, who headed home on 70 minutes.

Chatham starting XI

Subs used: Green (Lovell 65), Walker (Cass 70), Lyons (Scott 81)

Instead of killing the game off in the closing stages to secure the victory, the Chats were stung twice by Tom Lyons. The latter came as the game ticked into second half injury time.

Although it was a case of two points dropped, the Chats boss remained upbeat.

He said: "Our objective is to stay in the pack and we're doing that even with the injuries and suspensions we've got. If we lose players like that it's a massive loss because we have a small squad and a small budget. As long as we're in the mix I'm happy."

The Chats were in action last night in a Kent derby with struggling Whitstable Town. Log on to www.yourmedway.co.uk for the report.

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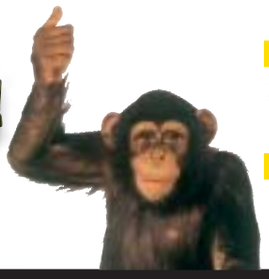

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Stimson praise for Jacko as 'proper goal' seals win

FOOTBALL

BY TOM HOWARD

Gillingham 3
Gowling 16, Weston 44, Jackson 78

Wycombe 2
Woodmen 27, Johnson 62

MARK Stimson couldn't hide his delight in having Simeon Jackson back from injury after the striker helped Gillingham win against managerless Wycombe Wanderers.

After four league games without a win, the Gills were in need of a result and goals from Josh Gowling and Curtis Weston either side of a thunderbolt from Wycombe's Craig Woodmen, gave the home side a 2-1 half-time lead.

However, Gillingham were forced to work hard for the victory after an own goal from Mark Bentley levelled the score. With 12 minutes remaining, top scorer Jackson, executed a 20-yard chip to earn his side a 3-2 win.

Gills boss Stimson said: "People say to me do you miss Jackson? We miss him is an understatement. No player on the pitch, other than him, could have scored the winner. It was more than a good finish, it was a proper goal. The kid is a player and match winner. He is certainly going to go on to bigger and better things."

Although Wycombe came back to equalise twice, Stimson was pleased with his side's performance and resilience to keep plugging away for the three points.

He said: "Full credit to the boys, they put a shift in. We knew we would have to as teams often come out flying when they lose a manager. We like to beat teams in and around us because we know we are going to be fighting with the likes of these come the end of the season."

Despite the win Stimson still believes he needs to strengthen his squad with long-term injuries to Simon King and midfielder Danny Jackman, who could be on the sidelines for up to four months with a dislocated shoulder.

He said: "I have mentioned a few names to the chairman and I'm hoping he can do a bit of business for me because at the moment we are young and naïve, and at this level you can get found out."

Elsewhere at the club, promising midfielder Jack Payne has signed a three-year contract extension after impressing this season.

The midfielder, who has come through the youth set-up, has burst onto the scene this season with ten appearances in the first team.

Pictures: ADY KERRY

DELIGHTED: Mark Stimson believes Simeon Jackson (right) will go on to bigger things as his impressive season continues

Gillingham starting XI

Subs used: Lewis (Miller 68), Rooney (Oli 71)

Stimson said: "I think it's fantastic news for the football club to have tied someone of his potential down for such a long period of time. He deserves a new deal because he's in the team on merit and I thought again on Saturday he didn't play like a 17-year-old."

The same deal has been offered to Luke Rooney who is expected to make a decision shortly.

Gillingham were back in League One action last night at Brighton. Log on to www.yourmedway.co.uk for a full report.

TEAM TALK
with Gills skipper
BARRY FULLER

'It wasn't pretty but we needed three points'

ALTHOUGH Saturday's win against Wycombe wasn't the prettiest game to watch, to be honest we couldn't care less as long as we came away with a win.

After going a few games without a victory you just want to get back to winning ways any way you can. We targeted the Wycombe game beforehand as one we could do well in, with them struggling near the bottom of the table.

We like to play an attractive passing game, especially at home, but we couldn't get into that rhythm and we had to scrap it out, they kept fighting away and got back in the game twice. It was frustrating but that's football and we're going to get that at times this season.

I felt sorry for Mark Bentley after his own goal, there's nothing you can say to someone after that happens. I've scored a couple in my time, once at Stevenage when we were 3-0 up and we eventually drew the game, so I know how he felt but you just have to forget it.

Magic

Despite their goals we always had the belief we could go on and win the game and Jacko again came up with a bit of magic. It was one of those goals you admire straight away and you think 'how has he done that?'.

The game was a painful one for me after straining ligaments in my shoulder. I couldn't take throw-ins but other than that it wasn't too bad – just one of those injuries where I had to grit my teeth and get through it. I always pride myself on the fact it takes a lot for me to come off the pitch and I managed to finish the game.

It was a big win going into trips to Brighton last night and MK Dons this Saturday. Hopefully we can end our winless away run against one of them to stay in the top half of the table.

LEAGUE TABLES

COCA-COLA LEAGUE ONE

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pt
1 Leeds United	11	8	3	0	+13	27
2 Charlton Athletic	12	7	4	1	+10	25
3 Colchester United	12	7	3	2	+13	24
4 Milton Keynes Dons	12	7	2	3	+4	23
5 Bristol Rovers	11	7	1	3	+4	22
6 Norwich City	12	5	4	3	+6	19
7 Swindon Town	12	4	7	1	-1	19
8 Huddersfield Town	12	5	3	4	+9	18
9 Oldham Athletic	12	4	5	3	-1	17
10 Millwall	12	3	6	3	+4	15
11 Gillingham	**11**	**4**	**2**	**5**	**+1**	**14**
12 Southend United	12	3	5	4	+1	14
13 Brentford	12	3	5	4	-3	14
23 Wycombe Wand.	12	1	3	8	-9	6
24 Southampton (-10)	12	3	6	3	+3	5

RYMAN DIVISION ONE SOUTH

1 Godalming Town	9	6	1	2	+8	19
2 Merstham	11	6	1	4	+2	19
3 Croydon Athletic	8	5	2	1	+16	17
4 Folkestone Invicta	8	5	2	1	+6	17
5 Fleet Town	9	4	2	3	+7	14
6 Chatham Town	**9**	**4**	**2**	**3**	**-1**	**14**
7 Metropolitan Police	9	3	4	2	+3	13
8 Burgess Hill Town	9	4	1	4	+1	13
20 Whitstable Town	7	2	0	15	-10	6
21 Ashford Town	8	1	2	5	-17	5
22 Chipstead	9	0	4	5	-12	4

KENT LEAGUE

1 Faversham Town	9	8	1	0	+17	25
2 Herne Bay	8	6	0	2	+8	18
3 Beckenham Town	8	5	1	2	+7	16
4 Greenwich Borough 9	4	3	2	+6	15	
13. Norton Sports	9	2	1	6	-6	7
14. Sporting Bengal Utd 7	2	1	4	-12	7	
15. Corinthian	6	0	2	4	-11	2
16. Lordswood	**7**	**0**	**2**	**5**	**-13**	**2**

FIXTURES (Saturday):
Coca-Cola League One: MK Dons v **Gillingham**; Kent League Premier Division Cup First RoundFirst Leg: **Lordswood** v Deal Town

Jackson makes return from injury to fire home winner

FOOTBALL

SIMEON Jackson described Gillingham's win against Wycombe as a massive three points after he capped his return from injury with a stunning winner.

The 22-year-old returned to the starting line-up for the first time in two games after being ruled out with a hamstring injury. The Canadian international showed no signs of the injury by firing a 20-yard chip into the net to clinch a 3-2 win for the Gills with just 12 minutes remaining.

Jackson, who has ten goals to his name so far this season, admitted the three points gained against Wycombe Wanderers was a massive relief for the team, following last weekend's heavy 4-1 defeat to Southampton. He also revealed he has felt no ill effects from his hamstring injury.

He said: "Sometimes it is good to have a little bit of a rest. My hamstring feels fine so hopefully I can carry on playing and performing.

"We needed a result. I looked at the table before the game and I don't think we deserved to be where were and the three points has turned it around. It was a very good test. We did make it very difficult for ourselves, but we managed to get the win.

Picture: ADY KERRY

ON TARGET: Simeon Jackson neetted winning goal

"Sometimes when you are pegged back to 2-2 I thought oh here we go again, but we pulled it out the bag."

Jackson has scored some important goals in his time at Gillingham, but Saturday's winner was a special goal, according to the striker.

He said: "I think it might be up there with the best I have scored. It has been a good start to the season for me in front of goal, but it is credit to the team for setting me up and giving me chances."

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Gills boss Mark Stimson reveals the full extent of Danny Jackman's injury

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